

EDMONTON'S 100% INDEPENDENT NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

#737 / DEC 3 - DEC 9, 2009 **FREE**
VUEWEEKLY.COM

VUEWEEKLY



LOWEST OF THE LOW'S RON HAWKINS
PERFORMS LIVE AT VUE WEEKLY

CLIMATE CROSSROADS

CANADA NEEDS TO
GET ON BOARD WITH
INTERNATIONAL
CONSENSUS
JEH CUSTER / 7



ARTS >> POSTER BOYS / 27

FILM >> BICYCLE THIEVES / 34

MUSIC >> PJ PERRY / 49



49⁹⁵ ~~69⁹⁵~~

Wood Easel, 3-in-1
Blackboard, marker board, 5 storage
bags and accessories
0CE-2



29⁹⁵

**DeSerres 1000 Pieces
Scrapbooking Set**
Over 1000 pieces: 12" x 12" album,
assorted papers and ornaments.
ANPK1994



14⁹⁵ ea.

Magnetic Dressing Game
Includes a figurine and over
24 magnetic clothing units
ML3553, ML3550

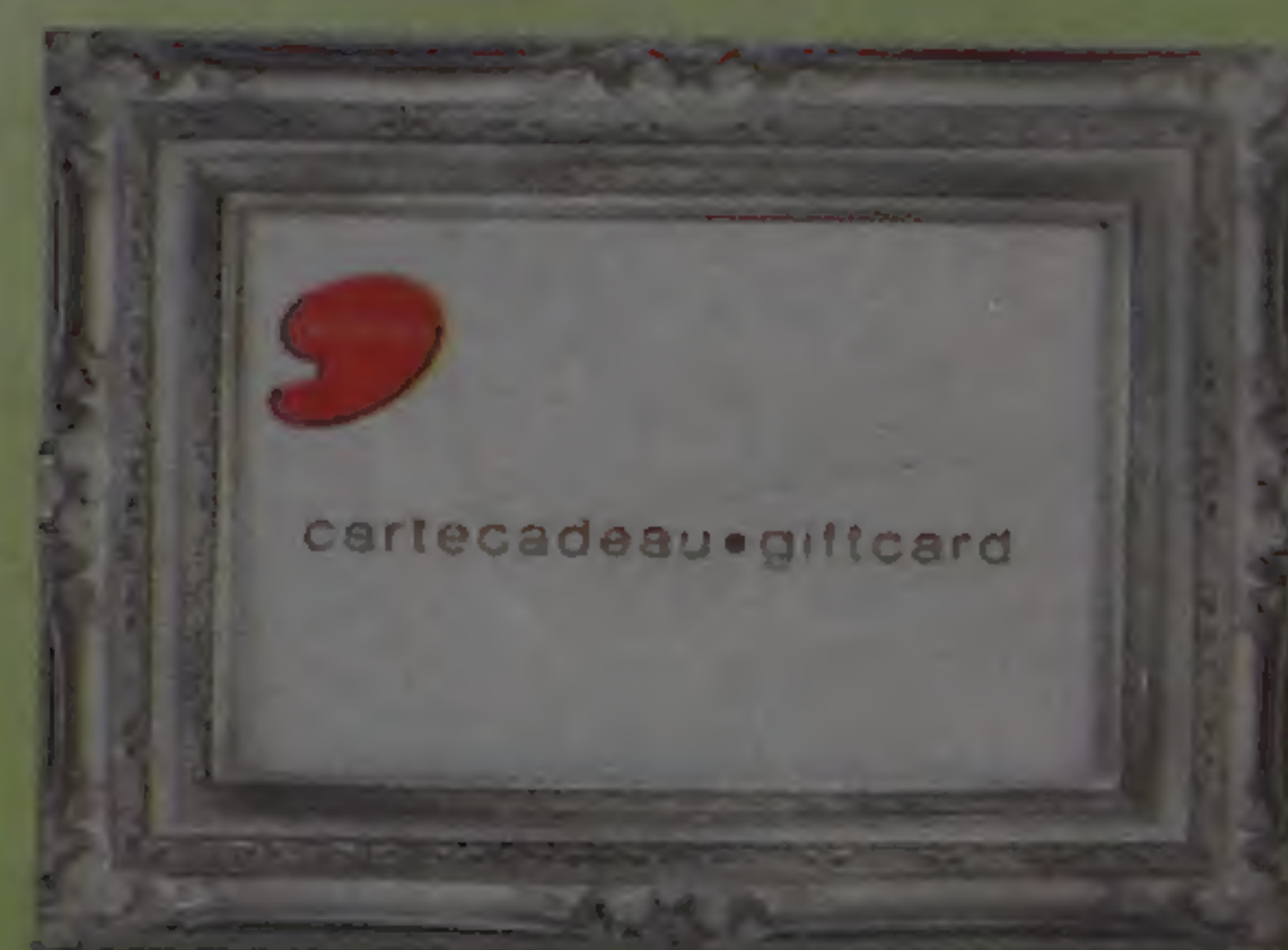


HOLIDAY SALE



34⁹⁵

**Pébéo Acrylic
Paint Set**
30 20-ml tubes + brush
PB33331



Available in the amount of your
choice from \$5 to \$250.



19⁹⁵ ~~26⁹⁵~~

**DeSerres Set of 12
Synthetic Brushes**
DP12L



44⁹⁵ ~~69⁹⁵~~

**DeSerres Stained
Easel Box + Drawer**
0BC-3B



14⁹⁵

Set of 5 frames
1 - 5" x 7" photo, 4 - 4" x 6" photo
LARY5B

26 STORES IN CANADA

Prices effective until December 31st, 2009 or while supplies last.

DESERRES.CA

Dear Santa,

I've done some **SOUL** searching to make life easier
for you and the elves. Here's what I found:

1. I've been nice.

2. www.southtownkia.ca has a great selection of Kia Souls
(no assembly required)

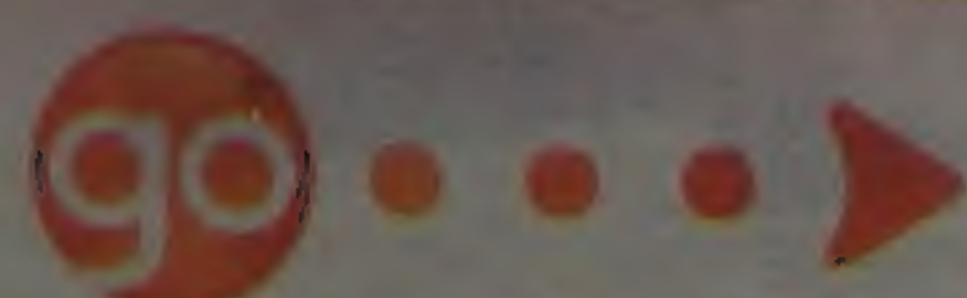
3. Payments as low as \$108 b/w with no payments 'til spring!

4. They have a red one!

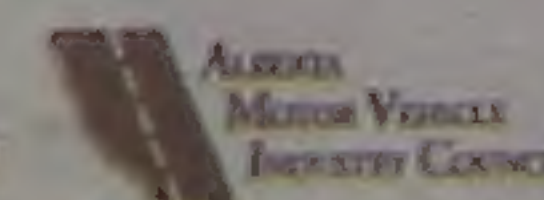
Love,
Ashley
XOXO



WWW.SOUTHTOWNKIA.CA



SOUTHTOWN KIA 9710 35 ave | 1.888.227.5493 local & toll free



Prices include freight, PDI, Doc fee and tire tax. GST is extra. All programs and offers are mutually exclusive. All rebates to dealer. Payments on longest term available, \$0 Down, 2.49% OAC 26 Bi-weekly payments per year. Eg: Sportage #9SP0278 - \$17,645 and biweekly payments of \$112 plus GST. Cost to finance is \$1,623.73. Final payment of \$5,956.36. Guaranteed approval may require down payment and proof of income. Prices and payments subject to change without notice.

Parliament of Canada

Become a Parliamentary Guide

Give guided tours of Parliament

Apply online!

Deadline: Friday January 15, 2010



www.parl.gc.ca/guides

For life.

You're born, you die.
And in-between you can blow a wad on
footwear fads that are here today and in
the hereafter tomorrow. Blundstone boots
are not immortal. But since 1870, they've
cheated fashion's grim reaper with
timeless style, no laces and
all-season comfort.
Try one pair, and you
can't live without them.

Blundstone
Footwear

NEW
#064 The Chisel Toe in
Crazy Horse Brown
blundstone.ca

Gravity Pope 10442 Whyte Ave 439-1637
Kunitz Shoes 23rd Avenue & 114 Street 438-4259
Wener Shoes 10322 Jasper Avenue 422-2718
Campers Village 10951-170 Street NW 484-2700
Campers Village South Point 3235 Calgary Trail NW 479-2267
Soft Moc West Edmonton Mall 489-5616

VUEWEEKLY INSIDE

#737 • Dec 3 - Dec 9, 2009

UP FRONT // 6

- 6 Vuepoint
- 8 Dyer Straight
- 9 ZeitGeist
- 12 Issues
- 13 Well, Well, Well
- 13 In the Box

DISH // 14

- 15 To the Pint
- 16 Living Proof

ARTS // 27

- 31 Hopscotch

FILM // 34

- 34 DVD Detective

MUSIC // 39

- 42 Enter Sandor
- 50 New Sounds
- 51 Old Sounds
- 51 Quickspins

BACK // 52

- 52 Free Will Astrology
- 54 Queermonton
- 55 Alt.Sex.Column

EVENTS LISTINGS

- 33 Arts
- 37 Film
- 40 Music
- 53 Events

SNOWZONE



21 Powder Burn explores ecoterrorism in Vail, CO



25 BC Court of Appeal rejects bid to add female ski jumping to the Olympics

VUE
ONLINE

VUEWEEKLY.COM

VUETUBE // RON HAWKINS



Watch Ron Hawkins perform live at vueweekly.com/vuetube

MUSIC

The Classical Score: highlights of the week's classical-music performances

FILM // SIDEVUE

Best of the 2000s by Josef Braun and Brian Gibson. Two of Vue's intrepid film critics look at some of the best debuts of the last decade.

FACEBOOK

We're listening, so let's talk. Join the conversation on Facebook. Join our Vue Weekly Facebook group.

DISH // DISHWEEKLY.CA

Restaurant reviews, features, searchable and easy to use. dishweekly.ca

7

Climate change enters the spotlight at Copenhagen summit

FILM



34 Bicycle Thieves is an influential neorealist flick, but one that's trying hard to say something meaningful

MUSIC



49 Local jazzman PJ Perry adds songwriting to his accomplishments



BLACK DOG

SOUL
SUNDAYS
WITH DJ ZYPY

A bottle of Kahlúa Espresso Martini is shown on the left, tilted diagonally. The bottle has a red textured neck and a label with the Kahlúa logo and 'IMPORTED-IMPORTÉ'. In the foreground, a glass filled with a light-colored, frothy drink is garnished with three coffee beans. The background features a sunset sky with a large sun and silhouettes of pyramids.

Kahlúa® Espresso Martini

The Kings took pleasure in the simpler things, like massive temples, solid gold thrones, and the richly decadent taste of Kahlúa coffee liqueur.

EXPLORE YOUR CURIOSITY.

Please enjoy our products responsibly.

EDITORIAL

Vuepoint

Expensive, bad idea

DAVID BERRY
// DAVID@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Perhaps it's just the leftover bad taste from last week's announcement that the Edmonton Indy once again busted its budget, but something about this week's announcement that the city is going ahead on its bid for the 2017 World's Fair/Expo doesn't sit quite right.

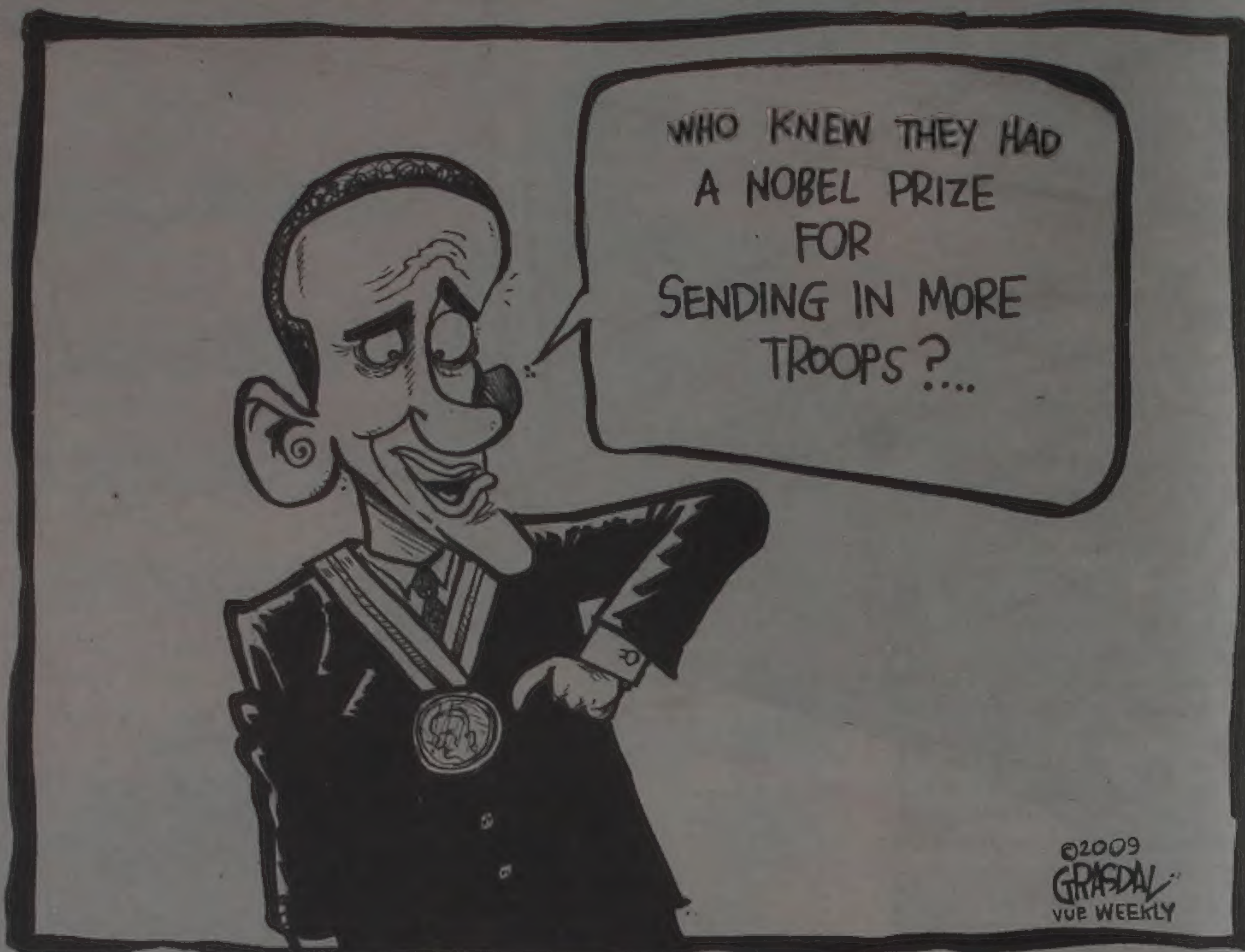
A small part of that are some aspects of the actual bid itself—does the city really think that water taxis are something we need, much less will consider a lasting legacy of our glorious fair?—but much of it just has to do with the fact that these grand gestures, while they briefly grab headlines and leave city politicians gushing about potential, rarely live up to their hyperbolic billing. Unlike the Indy, the Expo would at least leave some lasting and potentially relevant infrastructure, but we really only need to look over at Vancouver for an example of some of the problems that can be associated with that.

But really, more than anything it just seems like the wrong way to go about building a truly vibrant, interesting city. Proponents of these kinds of things will inevitably accuse people like me of small-minded thought, but there's a

difference between thinking big and privileging high-profile projects over solid-but-less-spectacular city-building. Really big thinkers, to my mind, are now far more concerned with building cities that attract world-class thinkers and active, thoughtful citizens to live, rather than just for a 90-day party, and though the City has certainly made some fits and starts down that road, the promises are still a little too fresh, the action not quite as established as it should be to make us feel confident that it's a new direction and not just a new spiel.

The roughly \$2 billion that would be committed—including \$22 million for the bid process alone—could be spent in any number of better ways, including some that would fit much better with the proposed theme of Harmony of Energy and Our Future Planet than what amounts to a glorified international conference. An event like this can be a real boon to cities that already have the infrastructure and lifestyle in place to be vibrant, connected municipalities—it worked, to a degree, for Montréal and Vancouver, for example—but Edmonton is not there yet, and we'd do well spending more time with our eyes on our sidewalks and roadways than in the sky. **V**

GRASDAL'S VUE



Letters

Vue Weekly welcomes reader response, whether critical or complimentary. Send your opinion by mail (Vue Weekly, 10303 - 108 Street, Edmonton AB T5J 1L7), by fax (780.426.2889) or by email (letters@vueweekly.com). Preference is given to feedback about articles in Vue Weekly. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity.

ISSUE No. 737 // DEC 3 - DEC 9, 2009 // AVAILABLE AT OVER 1400 LOCATIONS

VUEWEEKLY

10303 - 108 STREET, EDMONTON, AB T5J 1L7

T: 780.426.1996 F: 780.426.2889 E: OFFICE@VUEWEEKLY.COM W: VUEWEEKLY.COM

EDITOR / PUBLISHER	RON GARTH // ron@vueweekly.com
MANAGING EDITOR	EDEN MUNRO // eden@vueweekly.com
NEWS EDITOR	SCOTT HARRIS // news@vueweekly.com
ARTS / FILM EDITOR	PAUL BLINOV // paul@vueweekly.com
MUSIC EDITOR	EDEN MUNRO // eden@vueweekly.com
DISH EDITOR	BRYAN BIRTLES // bryan@vueweekly.com
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE EDITOR	JEREMY DERKSEN // snowzone@vueweekly.com
ASSOCIATE MUSIC EDITOR	BRYAN BIRTLES // bryan@vueweekly.com
STAFF WRITER	DAVE BERRY // david@vueweekly.com
CREATIVE SERVICES MANAGER	MICHAEL SIEK // mike@vueweekly.com
PRODUCTION	CHELSEA BOOS // che@vueweekly.com
ART DIRECTOR	PETE NGUYEN // pete@vueweekly.com
SENIOR GRAPHIC DESIGNER	LYLE BELL // lyle@vueweekly.com
WEB/MULTIMEDIA MANAGER	ROB BUTZ // butz@vueweekly.com
LISTINGS	GLENYS SWITZER // glenys@vueweekly.com
SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER	ROB LIGHTFOOT // rob@vueweekly.com
LOCAL ADVERTISING	780.426.1996 // advertising@vueweekly.com
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING	780.426.1996 // classifieds@vueweekly.com
NATIONAL ADVERTISING	DPS MEDIA // 416.413.9291
ADMINISTRATION/DISTRIBUTION	MIKE GARTH // michael@vueweekly.com
ADMINISTRATION/PROMOTIONS	AARON GETZ // aaron@vueweekly.com
COVER CONTRIBUTORS	TRACY NIVEN // tniven@gmail.com Ricardo Acuña, Mike Angus, Bobbi Barbarich, Josef Braun, Rob Breszny, Jim Dean, Gwynne Dyer, Jason Foster, Amy Fung, Michael Geist, Brian Gibson, Tamara Gorzalka, James Grasdall, Jan Hostyn, Whitey Houston, Connie Howard, Ashley Kascak, Keith Liggett, Hanne Lynch, Fawnda Mithrush, Carolyn Nikodym, Stephen Notley, Omar Mouallem, Sam Power, Steven Sandor, Jarrett Stastny, L.S. Voss
PRINTING	The Edmonton Sun
DISTRIBUTION	Barrett DeLaBarre, Alan Ching, Raul Gurdian, Dale Steinke, Zackery Broughton, Wally Yanish, Justin Shaw

Vue Weekly is available free of charge at well over 1400 locations throughout Edmonton. We are funded solely through the support of our advertisers. Vue Weekly is a division of 783783 Alberta Ltd. and is published every Thursday. Vue Weekly is available free of charge throughout Greater Edmonton and Northern Alberta, limited to one copy per reader. Vue Weekly may be distributed only by Vue Weekly's authorized independent contractors and employees. No person may, without prior written permission of Vue Weekly, take more than one copy of each Vue Weekly issue. Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40022989. If undeliverable, return to: Vue Weekly 10303 - 108 Street Edm, AB T5J 1L7

association of alternative newsweeklies

Audit Bureau
of Circulations

WE DON'T NEED MEAT

As a rational human being I can accept that the majority of people are reluctant to give up their meat and dairy. Why this is so, considering the overwhelming evidence of the adverse effects on health, environment and suffering, is quite beyond me.

The fact that Connie Howard ("Unwelcome news to vegans," Nov 26 - Dec 2, 2009) can dig up a book by a disgruntled former vegan and an obscure report on nutritional studies should not be reason to ignore the wealth of data that has been built up over the last 25 years or so. Her efforts are akin to those who would deny the reality of climate change, in that they take a few anomalies in the thesis and use them to attempt to debunk the remaining hard evidence.

There may be a need for saturated fat during brain development, but this is adequately satisfied by mother's milk. To speculate that vegans might suffer neurological problems flies in the face of years of practise in this dietary choice and practical examples of cultures that have survived very well without animal flesh or secretions.

Surely Ms. Howard can see that the way we eat nowadays is killing us in a slow and debilitating manner. Obesity is running rampant, heart disease is still the number one killer and very few people

get an adequate amount of nutrients in their SAD (Standard American Diet) way.

There is no hard evidence to say that all essential nutrients cannot be obtained from a plant-based diet. However, at the same time the same nutrients are definitely not available from the kinds of stuff we allow food vendors to display on their shelves every day of the week. Imagine, if it were possible, taking your great grandmother from her youth in 1909 and dumping her amongst the garbage on a typical supermarket shelf today. The poor lady wouldn't recognize the stuff as food and she would find most of it bland and devoid of taste and quality. Why have we allowed this to happen?

The answer to this question has already been given: corporate food giants dictate what we will eat, use their purchasing power to exclude real food and rationalize down to a few basic inputs—corn, soya and grain. But people are becoming wise to their game and changing purchasing habits, thus feeding the exponential growth of the organic sector. Will this be enough? Probably not, since these corporate entities have very deep pockets and have a history of absorbing competition and morphing into something new. Sadly, these same entities have become like GM and are deemed "too big to fail."

David J. Parker
Vegans & Vegetarians of Alberta

SOCIALISTS WILL DESTROY US ALL

After reading the first several pages of Vue Weekly, it became apparent to me that Canada's future is not in danger from the right, but the left. As a centralist that thinks Canada already has the perfect balance, I was shocked to read page after page of what Canada needs to do.

According to several of your writers, we need to displace democracy to assure that a socialist government is always in place. The state can then unite with unions, and replace the greedy capitalist system with a state-run socialist system. We need to replace our resource-based economy with a state-financed green economy. Some of the suggestions were to produce solar panels and mini turbines and install them in houses. The fact that these are already manufactured seems not to matter and ignores the fact that any economy depends on supply and demand. And not state demand.

Without revenues from our resource, who pays for all the installations of greening every house in Canada, or anything else for that matter? After your system drives out the wealthy and middle class with massive taxation and borrowing, then what? This centralist is now convinced that Canada cannot afford the left.

Dale Peter

See you at the crossroads

Climate summit will lay bare divide between Canada and the world

JEH CUSTER
// JEH@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Canada has long been an outlier in terms of real action on climate change, seemingly drifting further from international consensus with every passing year. But now, official attitudes may be at their crossroad: the most important climate summit in history, the COP15 United Nations Climate Change Conference, is set to take over Copenhagen for two weeks starting next Monday, and the Harper government is caught between its position and the rest of the world.

Canadian Environment Minister Jim Prentice has already said that he does not envision a treaty coming out of Copenhagen. But many Canadians feel this sentiment is reflective of the Conservative government's dismissive approach to the climate crisis. The Harper government increasingly finds itself marching to the beat of its own oil drum, as recent polling confirms that more than three quarters of Canadians feel embarrassed by the government's lack of action on climate change.

And the position is understandable. Beyond the science, which has warned us for decades, many impacts of the climate crisis are already being felt in Canada and around the world: flooding, unpredictable weather patterns, drought and accelerating desertification, malnutrition, the expansion of diseases such as malaria, stress on water supplies and growing resource conflicts. Oxfam International's recent report, *The Right to Survive*, estimates that 240 million people each year are affected by climate-related disasters.

"It is unjust for the political leaders of rich nations such as Canada to create a crisis and then refuse to do their fair share to fix it," says Lisa Faye, policy and outreach officer for Oxfam Canada. "Millions of the world's poorest people, primarily women and children, are suffering the effects of climate change today, and yet leaders of the world's richest countries are so blinded by economic growth that they are unwilling to meaningfully take part in a dialogue that has the potential to save millions of lives."

Especially since it only has the potential to get worse. The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, consisting of the world's leading climate scientists, acknowledges the possibility of up to six degrees of global warming by the end of the century if we continue with business-as-usual emissions growth. Under this scenario, food and water scarcity, compounded by ecosystem instability, would irreversibly impact billions of people around the world.

"Canada can choose to do its fair share, or it can continue to turn its back on this problem, but either way a choice is being made," states Graham Saul, executive director of Climate Action Network Canada. "It is a decision that, in ethical terms, deserves to be placed beside any other atrocity in human history, including slavery, segregation and colonialism, major genocides and the denial of women's and workers' rights. The impacts



// Tracy Niven

are on the same scale and the outcomes are just as avoidable. We must demand change now, before it is too late."

People in Canada are growing increasingly frustrated with the Harper government's inaction and making their voices heard. On the International Day of Climate Action, last October 24, over 100 different political actions were organized in cities across the country—joining 5000 such actions worldwide—pushing Canada to stand up for climate justice. In recent months and years, people across Canada have organized petitions, phone-ins, rallies, as well as writing and talking to their MPs, though to little effect. Because of that, some have taken more drastic action: last week in Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto concerned community members launched a national campaign to escalate public pressure on the government's climate inaction by refusing to leave the offices of Minister Prentice, Minister of Labour Rona Ambrose and Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty. Prior to being removed by police the community members made

national callouts for other communities to organize similar political actions for climate justice, though there are worries that even these protests will fall on deaf ears.

"By continuing to block progress on a global deal to solve climate change, the Harper government and many of Canada's other political leaders are saying they don't care about the lives of those currently and most affected by the climate crisis," says David Wilson, a constituent of Minister Prentice who was part of the sit-in. "Jim Prentice and the Harper government, as well as opposition leaders, must listen to Canadians and push for a just, ambitious and binding climate deal that listens to the science, and [which] is led by the voices of those who are most directly impacted by the climate crisis."

And it's not just the public who is pushing for this direction. Last week, the Harper government received direction regarding Canada's role in Copenhagen in the House of Commons. All opposition parties agreed that Canada should focus on proposing world-class

greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction targets and supporting the efforts of developing countries.

"The majority of our members of parliament understand the urgency of the upcoming climate summit," said Steven Guilbeault of community organizers Equiterre. "We have to remind our current government that it is their job to represent us, they have an obligation to listen. A fair, ambitious and binding deal is possible in Copenhagen—we just need our government to show the political will."

Many Canadians clearly sense that it is not in anyone's best interest to have a repeat performance of last year's climate summit in Poznan, Poland, where Canada was voted worst of all nations in blocking progress towards a binding climate treaty. A growing international movement to push Canada to put some significant targets and funding on the table to combat climate change is taking shape.

Last week, Al Gore publicly called out Canada's current climate policy for contradicting the nation's energy policy. He emphasized that the continued expansion of the oil industry in the Canadian

tar sands, which are found in both Alberta and Saskatchewan, is the main reason for Canada's weak climate policy and action. Alberta and Saskatchewan are the only provinces in Canada who project a larger carbon footprint 10 years from now. For activists, this fact and the Conservative government's unwillingness to address it is entirely unacceptable.

"Despite the growing climate crisis, the Harper government is doing everything in its power to sabotage global problem-solving efforts," says Mike Hudema, climate and energy campaigner with Greenpeace Canada. "By endangering and blocking progress on an international climate agreement and prioritizing the tar sands over the health of people on this planet, Harper is further jeopardizing the lives of millions that will die or become displaced due to the climate crisis. This government's behaviour is unacceptable, we need governmental leadership for climate justice now."

But it's not just Gore, or the tar sands, that have contributed to our poor reputation. And more and more people are taking notice, with increasingly harsh consequences for our international standing. For instance, momentum is building for an international push to demand the suspension of Canada from the Commonwealth for its record on climate change, leveling a serious charge that our current attitude towards climate change threatens the existence of some of the Commonwealth's member states.

"My country, Bangladesh, is already suffering the effects of climate change. Canada's complete failure to cut its emissions is making the global situation worse," says Saleemul Huq, senior fellow on climate change and a lead author of the latest assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. "If the Commonwealth is serious about holding its members to account, then threatening the lives of millions of people in developing countries should lead to the suspension of Canada's membership immediately."

In the last week Prime Minister Harper has decided to make an appearance in Copenhagen with other prominent leaders, such as United States President Barack Obama and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao. The world is waiting for a reaction from Canada, and the choice for the Harper government is really quite simple: either listen to Canadians, the House of Commons and the world, or get out of the way. There's more at stake here than just the next election.

"I am deeply ashamed of the Canadian government's appalling record on climate change," sums up Deborah Doane, a Canadian and the director of the World Development Movement. "Canada's reputation as a leading global citizen promoting social and environmental justice is now completely tarnished."

Jeh Custer is a delegate with the Canadian Youth Delegation to Copenhagen. Check back December 10 and 17 for Jeh's reports on progress in Copenhagen. Visit cydcopenhagen.org/ for live reports from the international climate summit.

TOP 10 RINGTONES

- 1 **3** Britney Spears
- 2 **Sexy Chic** David Guetta
- 3 **Tik Tok** Ke\$ha
- 4 **Throw Ya Hands Up** Stereos
- 5 **Hotel Room Service** Pitbull
- 6 **Fire Burning** Sean Kingston
- 7 **Down** Jay Sean
- 8 **Best I Ever Had** Drake
- 9 **Party In The USA** Miley Cyrus
- 10 **Whatcha Say** Jason Derulo

first DIBS
EXCLUSIVE RINGTONES
TEXT "DIBS" TO 4321 & HAVE 1ST DIBS
DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR
VIRGIN MOBILE PHONE!

THIS WEEK'S
FEATURE
ARTIST: **BILLY TALENT**

VUEWEEKLY

COMMENT >> BANGLADESH

Dogs of war

Shakespearean tragedy abounds in Bangladesh

If a Shakespeare should ever arise in Bangladesh, he would have plenty of tragedies around which to weave his history plays. The country is only 38 years old, but the vendettas between the leading families, the murders and plots and coups, have been just as tangled and bloody as the ones in 14th and 15th-century England that gave the great playwright so much of his material. But that kind of history may be coming to an end in Bangladesh.

It's not quite dead yet. Last February, at least 4000 soldiers serving in the Bangladesh Rifles, a border defence regiment, mutinied and began killing their officers. Fifty-seven officers and 17 other people were murdered by the mutineers, who dumped their bodies in sewers and an incinerator. The violence spread to military camps all over Bangladesh.

The mutineers said that they were revolting against poor pay, but many people suspected that there was a political motive behind it all. If there was, it failed. The rest of the army remained loyal, tanks surrounded the regiment's various camps and the government promised to look into the rebels' complaints if they surrendered.

That was a lie, of course: they were all arrested. The first nine soldiers went on trial for mutiny before a military court on 24 November and more than 3500 others will follow in various military cantonments around the country, while several hundred others will be tried before civilian courts for murder, rape and looting.

This is not the kind of blood-spattered Shakespearean ending that Bangladeshis have become much too familiar with. The trials may even answer the question of whether there was a political motive behind the military uprising. But suppose there was. What could it have been?

There has been a second high-profile court case in Bangladesh in the past month. On November 19 the Supreme

DYER STRAIGHT
gwynne@vueweekly.com
Gwynne Dyer



MERELY PLAYERS >> Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh // File

Court confirmed the death sentences for 12 former military officers who took part in the assassination of Bangladesh's founding father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in 1975. The five ex-officers who are actually in custody, and whose final appeal was rejected, now face imminent execution for their crime of 34 years ago.

Few countries had a bloodier birth than Bangladesh. For a decade and a half after the partition of India in 1947, it was just the eastern wing of Pakistan, a country in two parts with a lot of Indian territory between them. But the two parts never got along, and when what is now Bangladesh tried to leave Pakistan in 1971 it got very ugly.

The Pakistan army killed up to three million people in rebel "East Pakistan" be-

fore Indian military intervention forced it to withdraw. East Pakistan then became the independent country of Bangladesh, and the country's nationalist political leader, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (who had spent the war in jail in West Pakistan) came home to lead it.

Mujib was an autocratic man: by 1975 he had closed down all the opposition papers and declared himself president for life. But he did not deserve what happened to him and his family.

In the early hours of 15 August, 1975, a group of young officers stormed Mujib's house and killed everybody in it, including his wife, his three sons (one was only nine years old) and his servants. Twenty people in all. Only his two daughters, who were abroad at the time, survived. One of them, Sheikh Hasina, is now the prime minister.

(I told you it was Shakespearean.)

The young officers who murdered Mujib were overthrown by a different group within months, and another coup removed that bunch before the end of the year. Eventually power ended up in the hands of General Ziaur Rahman, who was also murdered by fellow officers in 1981. His widow, Khaleda Zia, has been prime minister three times, and still leads the main opposition party.

General Zia was not involved in the murder of Mujib, but he did end up allied to the people who had killed him: officers who detested Mujib's secularism, and in some cases had helped the Pakistani army slaughter their own people during the independence war. They killed Zia too, in the end, but that does not stop Zia's widow and Mujib's daughter from hating each other.

That personal vendetta has virtually paralyzed the politics of a country with half the population of the United States. Ever since democracy was restored in Bangladesh in 1990, Sheikh Hasina and Khaleda Zia have alternated in power, each devoting all her time in opposition to sabotaging the other's initiatives. But now the page may have turned.

The Supreme Court's confirmation of the death sentences on the aging conspirators of 1975 may finally enable the country to move past its obsession with those horrific murders. If there was a political motive behind the Bangladesh Rifles mutiny, it was to stop that verdict from being passed, but the insubordination did not spread.

Sheikh Hasina's Awami League won the last election by a landslide, and the army stayed loyal to the elected government right through the mutiny. The Bangladeshi Shakespeare may be running out of material. **V**

Gwynne Dyer is a London-based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries. His column appears each week in Vue Weekly.

WHATEVER IT TAKES!

Help Us In Our Drive to the Playoffs



Ryan Ward
2004 NLL All-Rookie Team
2007/2008 NLL All-Star



Brodie Merrill
2007-2009 NLL All-Star
2009 Transition Player of the Year



Gavin Prout
7-Time NLL All-Star
2006 NLL First Team All-Pro



Season Tickets
from \$ **120**

Family of 4 only
(per game) \$ **70**

Single Game Tickets
from \$ **17.49**

FOR TICKET INFO CALL: **780.732.RUSH** OR TICKETMASTER: **780.451.8000** VISIT ONLINE AT **EDMONTONRUSH.COM**

Internet deputies

Legislative proposals signal new policing requirements for ISPs

Last week federal Justice Minister Robert Nicholson introduced new legislation that, if enacted, will establish mandatory disclosure requirements for Internet providers to report child pornography websites or subscribers they believe are using their service to violate child pornography laws.

Bill C-58 shares similarities with several provincial laws, including one enacted last year in Ontario. It contains tough penalties such as fines or imprisonment for failure to report as well as requirements to preserve evidentiary computer data for several weeks. Internet providers are also prohibited from disclosing the disclosure to the suspected individual or website.

The bill extends beyond just Internet service providers by including those who provide Internet access, hosting or email services. In other words, services such as Google, Hotmail and Facebook are all covered.

While few will criticize a bill targeting child pornography—everyone agrees that it is abhorrent and we need to ensure that we have laws to deal with the problem—the bill still gives pause, for

the first stems from whether the bill actually accomplishes anything new. Although all of these provisions give

the appearance of a significant step forward in the fight against child pornography, the reality is that Canada is already a world leader in the area. Criminal provisions involving child pornography were enhanced in 2005 and Canadian law enforcement made the issue a priority, as evidenced by hundreds of arrests in recent years.

Cybertip.ca, an online tip service that works together with Internet providers and law enforcement, fields thousands of tips each year. Moreover, it maintains Project Cleanfeed Canada, an initiative that has resulted in ISPs blocking access to thousands of child pornography images.

While there are reports that Canada is a source of child-pornography websites, a recent major European-based study concluded that focusing on the web and blocking content makes little sense in trying to combat child pornography since most dissemination occurs beyond the potential for tips envisioned by the new disclosure bill.

The second concern arises from the bigger picture shift of the role of Internet providers. This bill marks the second piece of legislation this year that opens the door to far greater ISP policing and

monitoring of their networks. ISPs are quietly being deputized as law enforcement assistants, with new requirements

with the government promising funding to offset the new equipment costs. They also feature mandatory disclosure

Earlier this year, the government introduced lawful access legislation (Bills C-46 and C-47) that places Internet providers at the very centre of online crime investigations.

to install surveillance capabilities and provide information on their subscribers and their activities.

Earlier this year, the government introduced lawful access legislation (Bills C-46 and C-47) that places Internet providers at the very centre of online crime investigations. The bills establish technological surveillance requirements

of customer data, including name, address, IP address and email address upon law-enforcement request without court oversight. The bills even create the possibility of law enforcement paying ISPs for their time and trouble in handing over subscriber data.

When the lawful access bills are combined with Bill C-58, the vision of the ISP

as a common carrier that merely serves as an Internet intermediary disappears, replaced with new legal obligations that forces ISPs to do far more policing on their networks. Some will welcome this change—indeed argue that it should be expanded to other issues such as defamation or copyright—yet deputizing ISPs brings with it challenging questions about our comfort with having Bell Canada, Telus, Rogers, Shaw and other leading ISPs cast as supporting players for law enforcement.


Michael Geist holds the Canada Research Chair in Internet and E-commerce Law at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law. He can be reached at mgeist@uottawa.ca or online at michaelgeist.ca.

**ZEIT
GEIST**

mgeist@uottawa.ca

Michael
Geist

Give yourself
the joy of savings

fido 
Giving low prices a good home.

Plans from
\$15
per month*

- Talk & Text
- No System Access Fees
- Per-second billing

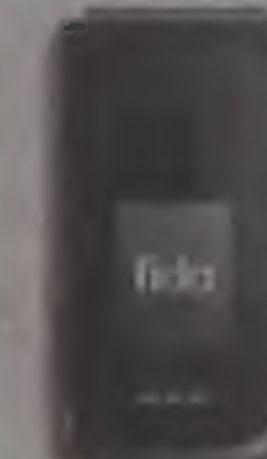
Phones at

\$0

With 2-year
Fido Agreement



BlackBerry® Pearl™
smartphone



Fido
2720



MOTO V2333 Renew

With 3-year
Fido Agreement and
Device add-on

Fido Cares

1. We give you FidoDollars™ so you can get your next phone for less.
2. Text messages to warn you before you exceed your plan
3. No System Access Fees
4. No term contract necessary

Start saving now! Shop fido.ca Drop by a store or call 1-866-301-3436

Offers subject to change without notice. *A one-time activation fee of \$35 per line applies. Additional airtime, long-distance, roaming, data, add-ons, provincial 9-1-1 fees (if applicable) and taxes are extra and billed monthly. Each plan includes a number of text messages sent from Canada to a Canadian wireless number; text messages received from another mobile phone are free. Charges apply for premium text messages (alerts, messages related to content, contests and promotions). Device price shown valid with new activation on a Fido Agreement, early cancellation fees apply. †Fido & design, Giving low prices a good home and FidoDollars are trademarks of Fido Solutions Inc. BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion®, SureType®, SurePress™ and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Used under license from Research In Motion Limited. All other brand names and logos are trademarks of their respective owners. © 2009 Fido Solutions Inc.

FIDO STORES

Kingsway Mall
Londonderry Mall
Sherwood Park Mall **NEW**
Southgate Centre
St. Albert's Centre, St. Albert

EXCLUSIVE DEALERS

AFFORDABLE WIRELESS
Northgate Centre
West Edmonton Mall

CELLULAR BABY
West Edmonton Mall
GENERATION WIRELESS
City Centre
Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre

UNIPAGE
Mill Woods Town Centre
West Edmonton Mall
Londonderry Mall

FUTURE SHOP

booth

BEST BUY

«WIRELESSWAVE»

WIRELESS etc...

COSTCO

LONDON DRUGS

Walmart

What
better
than ...



calendarofnakedmen.com

That is the legendary Teppan Grill. Juicy BBQ steaks, freshest seafood & hibachi vegetables. All prepared before your eyes at Japanese Village.
It is a celebration for the senses.

Chop Chop Sizzle



JAPANESE VILLAGE EDMONTON
Teppan Grill & Sushi Bar
10126-101 Street
Edmonton

JAPANESE VILLAGE TERPUN-CINING
Teppan Grill & Lounge
10218-104 Street
Edmonton

For reservations call
780.422.6083

BOOKS // A LEGAL GUIDE TO ABORIGINAL DRINKING WATER

Water troubles

New book offers guide through legal framework

SAM POWER
// SAM@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Following November 17's Auditor General report calling attention to insufficient legal protection for Aboriginal groups from environmental threats, NDP MP Linda Duncan released her new book providing legal guidance for safe drinking water to Aboriginal communities.

Duncan is hopeful the guide, titled *A Legal Guide to Aboriginal Drinking Water: A Prairie Perspective*, will assist Aboriginal communities in navigating a murky legal framework around water rights and security.

"The Auditor-General came forward with a statement saying Aboriginal people do not have the same legal protections as non-aboriginal people in this country," she says. "And as early as 1995 it was clearly documented. Now here we are in 2010 with no legal protections in place to ensure safe drinking water for first nations that the rest of us have."

It was Duncan's work with the Environmental Law Centre that brought her to see the threat to Aboriginal communities posed by ambiguous water-quality regulation and an increasing industrial presence at groundwater sources.

"When you start putting laws in place to guarantee safe drinking water, it's not just a matter of turning on the tap," she says, expressing her hope that the book

will help First Nations communities navigate the complexities of water rights. "For non-First Nations people today the issue of access to drinking water is not clear."

While that may be an understatement in a system where the provincial government is responsible for water and wastewater resources, it's the federal government that assumes the role on First Nation reserves. In addition, Environment Canada, Health Canada and Indian Affairs all have a role in water delivery and source-water protection. This leaves First Nation communities with a lack of resources on water testing and control as well as ambiguity in who is ultimately responsible for the delivery of safe drinking water. In 2006 the federal government's own Expert Panel on Safe Drinking Water for First Nations stated, "There are numerous gaps and a lack of uniform standards, as well as enforcement and accountability mechanisms."

The Expert Panel culminated in a call for a new single statute on federal water establishing a single water-standards regime—a statute Duncan has been pushing for since being elected.

And with increasing environmental risks and advancing industrial activities, especially here in Alberta, there is little time to waste in implementing comprehensive legislation to protect drinking water.

In Duncan's work in Alberta she knows the dangers facing Aboriginal communities downstream from development. In addition to the use of groundwater in in-situ processes, and the number of oil and gas wells, active and abandoned, the new carbon-capture sequestration processes offer new threats to communities downstream from tar sands and industrial activities.

"Alberta is proceeding with testing of carbon capture sequestration without properly documenting what groundwater is in those vicinities and what the implications might be when you start injecting carbon or industrial waste," Duncan explains.

"There is a myth in Canada that water is an unlimited resource," she continues, expressing her belief that groundwater in Canada is a great unknown quantity. "And we know here in Alberta especially how quickly groundwater is diminishing. We know that surface water is at serious risk."

Harper's federal government has yet to deliver on new legislation regulating safe water delivery in Canada, but Duncan is hopeful her book will act as a guide for First Nations and Metis communities through the existing legislation.

"We need to be having open discussions about who has access to those resources, how much there is and what we should be protecting for each generation." ▽

A LEGAL GUIDE TO ABORIGINAL DRINKING WATER: A PRAIRIE PERSPECTIVE
BY LINDA F. DUNCAN AND MARIE-ANN BOWDEN
AVAILABLE THROUGH THE FACULTY OF NATIVE STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

YOU NOW HAVE 50% FEWER REASONS TO STAY HOME.



UP TO 50% OFF ALL FARES
WITH ADVANCE PURCHASE.*
GREYHOUND.CA • 1-800-661-TRIP • IN TERMINALS

Greyhound

*Advance purchase required. For details, please visit greyhound.ca or call 1-800-661-TRIP. New bus design shown here is currently only available on select routes. Reservations may apply. © 2008 Greyhound Canada Transportation ULC.

... pictures of naked
men ...



THE BEST VALUE PERIOD!

Get Pre-Approved NOW!
30 Second Credit Application
Guaranteed Approval
Apply NOW!



WWW.KENTWOODFORD.COM



KENTWOOD FORD 13344 97 st | 1.877.881.7103 | 780.476.8600

Stop the cuts

RICARDO ACUÑA

In terms of specific numbers, the Stop the Cuts campaign is saying that

For Minister Hancock to somehow suggest that the cuts are inevitable as a result of the collapse of energy prices is also disingenuous. The second-quarter fiscal update, released by Finance Minister Iris Evans last week, projects a fiscal deficit for this year that is \$2.6 billion smaller than what

Well Mr. Hancock, groups like the Parkland Institute have gone out of their way over the last two years giving your government suggestions for putting more nickels into provincial coffers that you have just chosen to ignore. We have recommended increased royalties, ending subsidies to oil and gas companies, collecting the royalties we're currently owed, eliminating the flat tax and moving back to a progres-

Dig a little deeper and you can find other things, like the \$1.7 billion dedi-

Despite Minister Hancock's assertions, there are more than enough nickels there for the government to stop the cuts immediately and not be any worse off. It's up to all of us to demand that they do so. ♡

12 //

The truth is out there

Hard to find all the facts with pharmaceuticals

A conversation with a friend last weekend about pharmaceutical giant Pfizer's unethical behaviour threw me a little. The company recently paid a \$1.19 billion criminal fine, and \$1 billion to settle civil cases around its promotion of Bextra and other drugs for off-label use. Is my view of the elephant a naïve and simplistic one, or does harm being done by the industry in fact at times outweigh the good? It is after all, as I'm often reminded, true that orthodox medical wisdom comes to us from some of the best minds in the world, and it could well be argued that it is hubris on my part to be as skeptical as I am.

I considered all this, as I'm prone to do, overnight, subconsciously. I awoke the next morning clear again—it's not that I'm pre-

suming to know more than all these brilliant scientists do; it is simply that I have a view from a distance. This view is clear: whatever the miracles of medical science, we're medicating more than ever before in human history. We're living longer, but not better. It has become difficult to find a child without asthma or ADHD or anxiety. I am an anomaly among my 50-something peers in that, almost without fail, they need to use pharmaceuticals to sleep, to keep their bones strong, to keep cholesterol normal, to keep arthritis pain and anxiety and hot flashes and fatigue at bay.

The view from a distance has convinced me that medical science, as a giant industry, desperately needs a critical and watchful eye on it, and that the recommendations

originating in the industry and being passed on through Health Canada and the doctors caring for us deserve only carefully chosen acceptance. No matter how hard-working and brilliant the minds behind orthodox wisdom, it has historically often missed the forest for the trees, and led us astray.

My view from a distance also permits me to measure medical advice against the backdrop of the mostly-untold stories—those of the scientists once on the inside of the research establishment or Health Canada and now exiled, the facts about immense gaps between the science and medical practice and the personal stories of those injured on conventional wisdom and mostly blacked out by the media. It permits me to measure medical advice against the big picture—prescription drugs, used properly and according to approved uses, kill tens of thousands

of us each year, and seriously injure several million. Iatrogenic disease is a leading cause of death in the developed world.

Orthodox medical wisdom should also be measured in light of how the competitive peer review publication and research grant process works. Access to funding depends on peer review, giving scientists much power over the careers of their competitors. Despite the goals and strengths of a peer review system, its drawbacks are obvious: were we to put competitors in charge of approving new and at times unprofitable ideas in other markets, innovation would slow dramatically and precious few major shifts of improvement would reach the public.

The incontrovertible fact is that most of those willing to go against the flow of research are those who are not dependent on the system for funding; they are also the ones who will have great difficulty publishing their findings.

Again, I'm not saying we need no pharmaceuticals—we clearly do, most especially now that we've become as chronically ill as

we have. They can save lives, and make it bearable. We need relief.

My point is simply that we can get bogged down in discussions of off-label use of drugs and unethical behaviour, and whether or not it is advisable to deliver a potentially fatal blow to the industry, but we need a much bigger shift of focus. All drug use—both approved and off-label—should happen only with full risk disclosure, and full risk disclosure happens far too rarely. That's the biggest issue, the fact that drug information comes primarily from an industry which understandably has motivation to overstate the benefits and downplay the risks of its products. The biggest issue is the fact that medical science itself has become a big industry.

It's a worn groove by now, I know, but we might actually see something very positive come out of changing course a little as a whole, taking a wider berth around the drug-for-everything iceberg. It's not like it's working all that well, or anything, and we might actually see a decline in our ravenous hunger for relief. ▽



HOCKEY

A kick at the Oil can

Wikipedia readers take offence to our team

It's just getting worse, isn't it? Last week the Oilers put together another disappointing string of games. The LA Kings came to town and edged the Oilers 3-1. The kicker? Former Oiler Matt Greene scored in the game (his fourth goal in 260 NHL games). Then the Oilers stood up to the red-hot San Jose Sharks but lost in the shootout (5-4). The kicker? The Oilers gave up a shorthanded goal with 86 seconds left in the game to give up the lead. A trip to Vancouver left the Oilers with an embarrassing 7-3 result. The kicker? Really? The Canucks scored seven goals. That alone is bad enough. One more kicker. In the LA game, Ales Hemsky suffered a season-ending shoulder injury. Stupid kickers.



spark or any particular identity. The veterans are slowly falling out of favour and the new coaches and GM seem to be holding space until the next front-office shakeup. Now Hemsky is out. What I've always enjoyed about watching Oiler hockey was that feeling of anticipation when the puck drops. Who's going to win? How will the team do? It's like hearing a new CD or starting a new book. You never really know what the end result will be and the discovery alone is a fun trip.

Lately anticipation has started giving way to dread. When that puck drops there is only a glimpse of possibility or potential. I've started expecting a loss. That's not a fun trip.

Who needs facts? Cruising through Wikipedia, I noticed the Edmonton Oilers page was littered with Wikipedia's own quality-control warnings at the top. These warnings give guidance to those contributing information and give caveats to web surfers hoping to learn something. As a general rule, the more warnings at the top of the webpage, the less accurate and unbiased the information could prove to be. Among the alerts: it needs additional sources or references for verification; its quality may be compromised by "peacock terms" (terms that promote the subject without imparting verifiable information); its neutrality is disputed; its tone or style may not be appropriate for Wikipedia; it may require cleanup. I assumed, due to the nature of sports fans' emotional connection to their teams compromising an objective delivery of facts, this would be the case throughout Wikipedia. Nope. Only the Edmonton Oiler and Vancouver Canucks listings had warnings among the NHL teams.

Oiler player of the week: Ales Hemsky. The OPOTW isn't always the most effective or productive Oiler but the player who makes the biggest contribution. Hemsky's season-ending shoulder injury made the biggest impact. Honourable mention: Ryan Potulny, Sam Gagner. ▽

Slogans from Hell This year's Grey Cup championship game was certainly exciting but the ending was definitely memorable. A last-second penalty assessed to the Saskatchewan Roughriders allowed the Alouettes' kicker a do-over on the eventual game winning field goal. Montréal stole the win from the Green Machine. The penalty? The green Riders had 13 men on the field—one more than the rules allow. What made the back-breaking penalty ironic? The team's unofficial playoff slogan this year was "The Thirteenth Man Makes All The Difference!"

Yup. 'Twas true. So that got me thinking. Here are some other poorly named sports slogans I completely made up for cheap laughs found on the Internet:

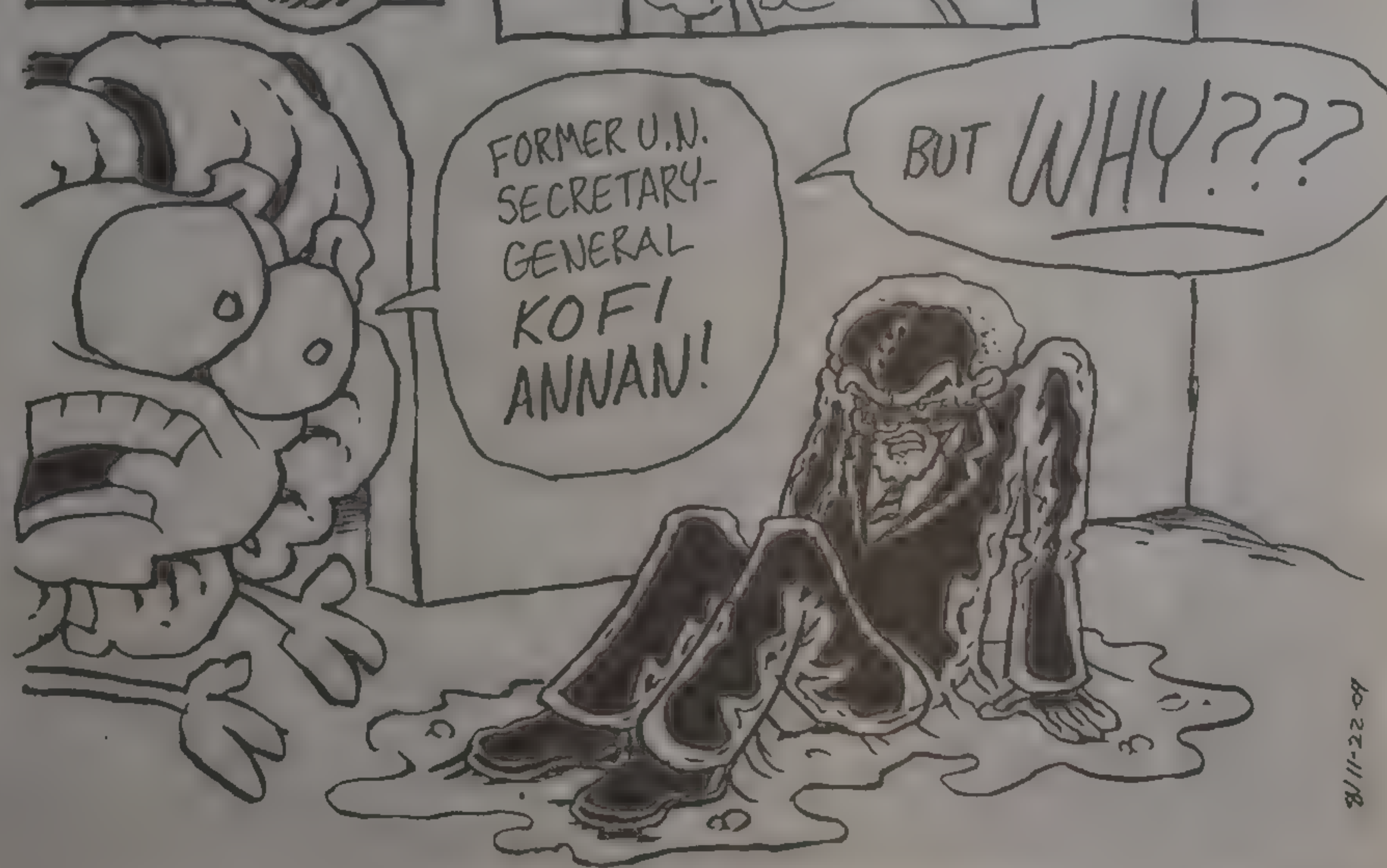
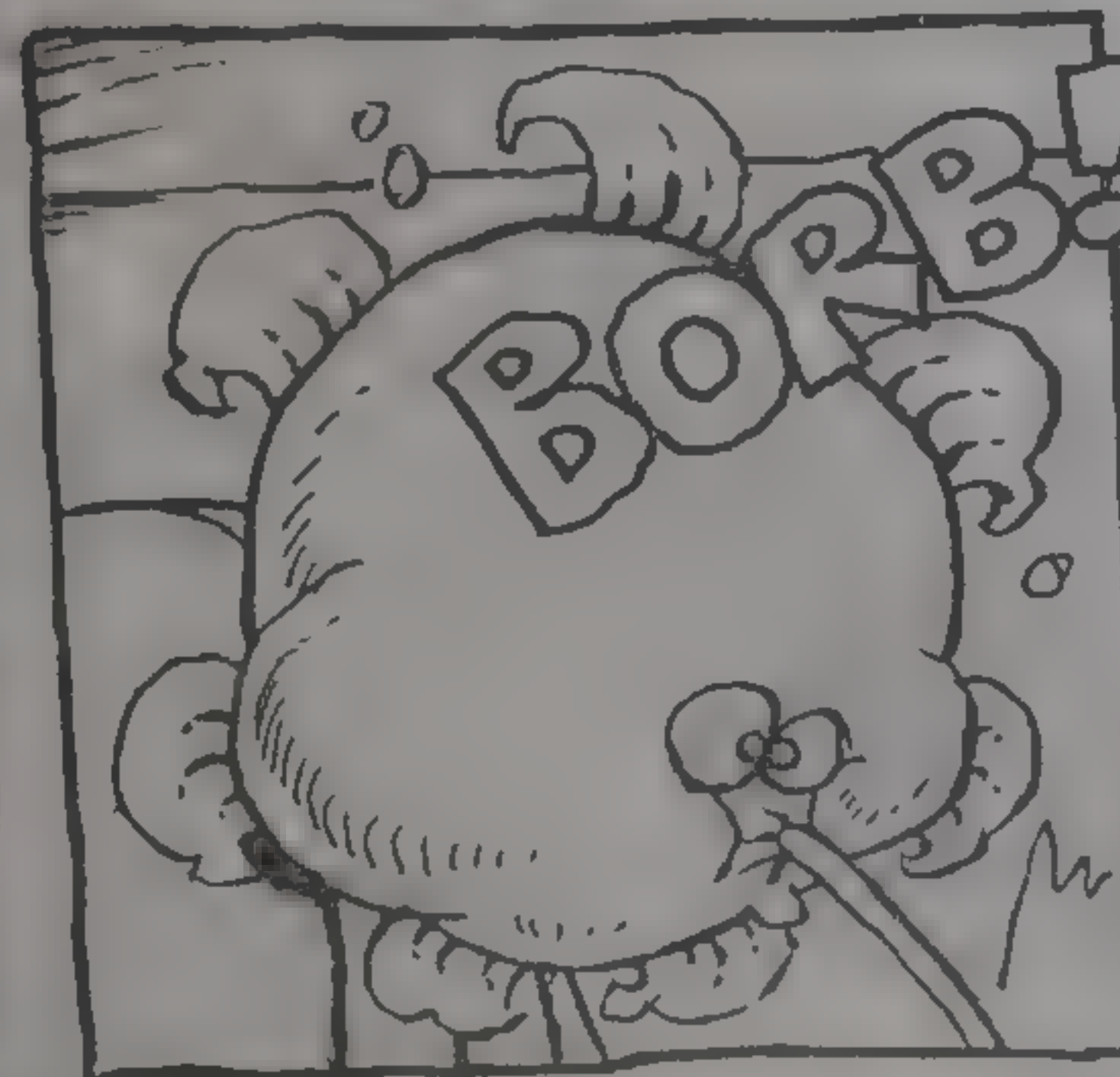
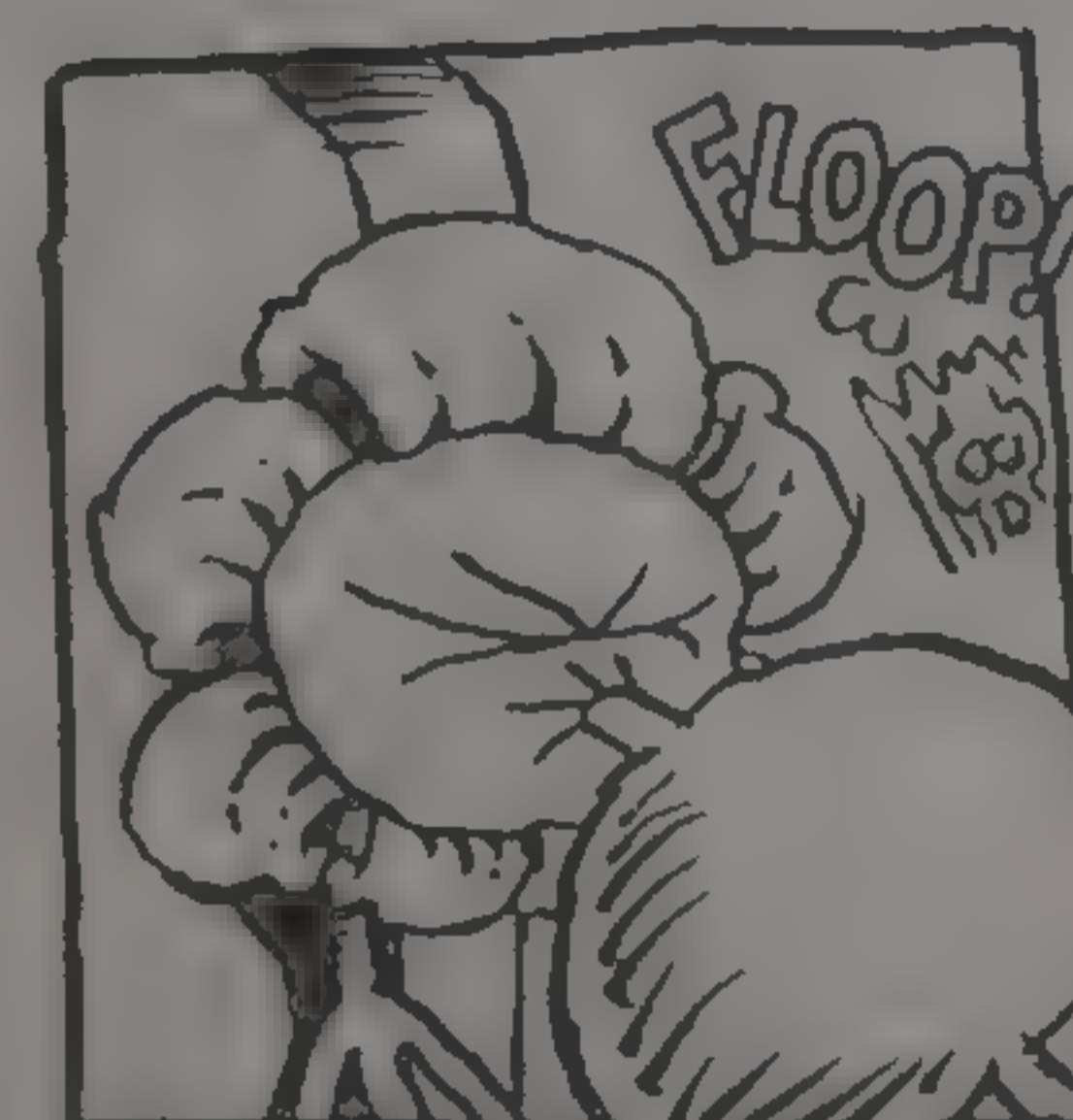
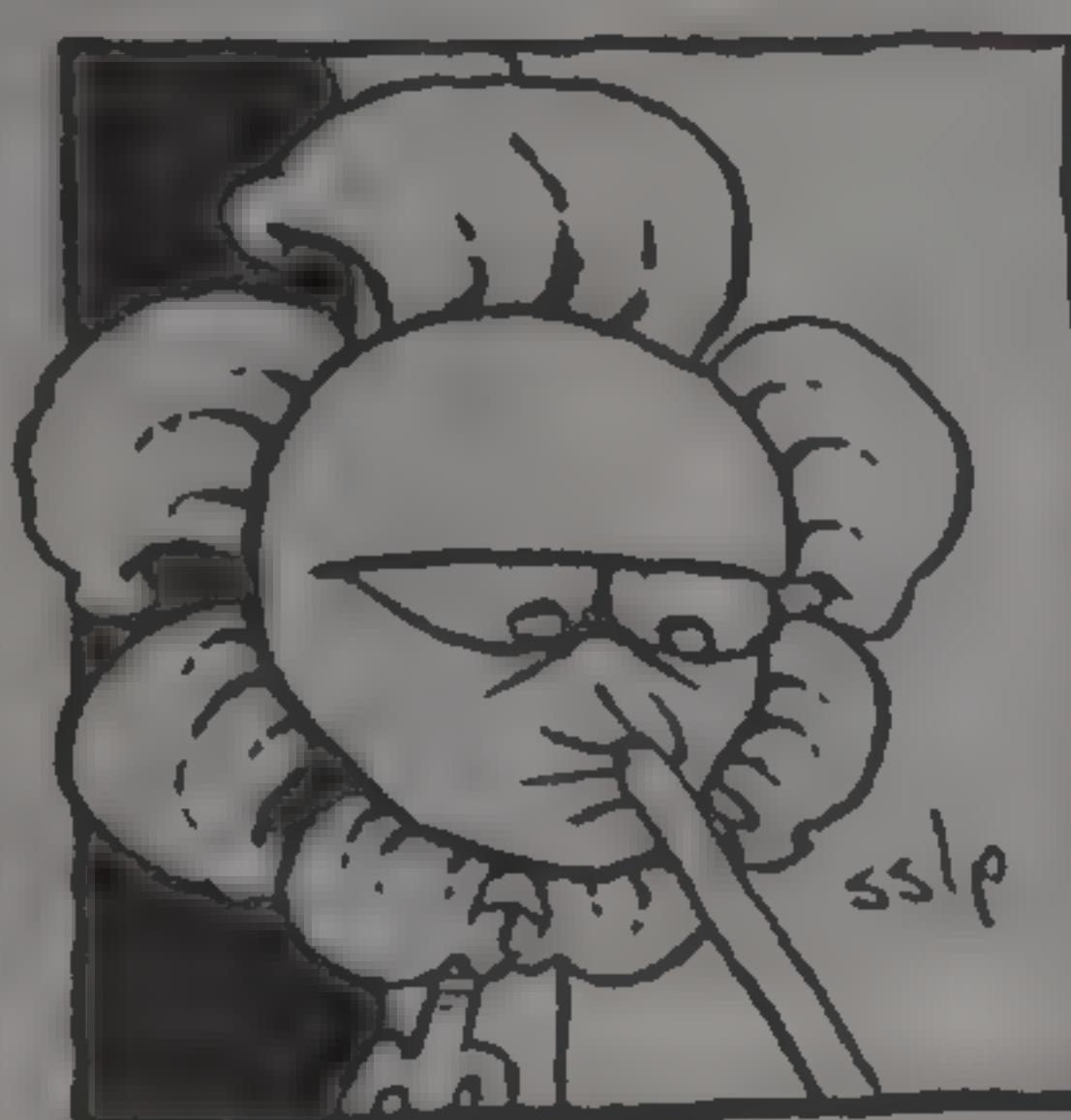
"Best Curved Sticks in the League!" LA Kings – 1993 Cup Finals

"Unless We Score On Our Own Net, We've Got This Series Locked Up, Baby!" Edmonton Oilers – 1986 Smythe Division Final

"Belarus, Schmearus. We've got Tommy Salo!" Swedish National Hockey Team – 2002 Olympics

Complaint Line The Oilers, as of last Tuesday, are sitting in 27th place in the league. The team seems to be playing without

BOB THE ANGRY FLOWER





16 Living Proof

17 Wild Earth

18 Vons



Online: vueweekly.com

Restaurant Reviews

Check out our comprehensive online database of *Vue Weekly's* restaurant reviews, searchable by location, price and type.

REVUE // RED STAR PUB

Much more than pub grub

Red Star Pub's menu fresh and original



HERE FOR THE FOOD >> The pub grub at Red Star excels // Kelsey Stroeder

KELSEY STROEDER
KELSEY@VUEWEEKLY.COM

With a focus on drinking, food is often an afterthought in many pubs: images of frozen bags filled with food destined for the deep fryer come to mind. However, some pubs in Edmonton are making the leap to fresh and original offerings, such as **Red Star Pub**, located on Jasper Avenue.

The dark interior, tightly clustered seating and relaxed atmosphere remind you

that first and foremost, Red Star Pub is, well, a pub. Drinks come first, and food is there if needed. With that in mind, we ordered a pint of Guinness and Stella Artois to start with (\$7 each). I had hoped for a bigger range of beers available on tap, but was willing to overlook it since the brews were expertly poured in their proper glasses.

Our first clue that we were in for pub grub of a different type was the compact, yet confident, menu, featuring only 14 items with strong reference to Italian cuisine.

The range of items was well thought out for the pub atmosphere, from little nibbles to go with drinks like rosemary roasted pecans (\$5) and spicy snap peas with roasted almond lemon gremolata (\$6) to meal-sized dishes like roasted chicken baguette with shaved radish and salsa verde (\$12) and housemade lamb sausage baked pasta (\$27 for two or three).

Tough decisions were required, but we managed to settle on three items to share. Up first was the wild mushroom chicken polpetta (\$11) that arrived with-

in minutes, hot from the kitchen. Seven polpettes, or meatballs, were accompanied by a black truffle crème fraîche. Drizzled with olive oil, the polpettes were moist and juicy to the bite. When dipped in the truffle-speckled crème fraîche, the earthy mushroom flavours were brought to the forefront. Simple, yet well executed.

As the delicious sounding housemade lamb sausage pasta was unfortunately not available, we settled on the vegetarian pasta option: pappardelle with

hearts of palm, pesto and roasted pine nuts (\$14). Our attentive waitress arrived with our one order of pasta, conveniently split into two bowls. Looking at both bowls together, the portion size would be more than ample for a filling meal individually. The pappardelle pasta was cooked to perfection, its texture and flavour had us fooled for homemade, until we asked the waitress for clarification. The herb pesto was full of fresh flavours, especially notes of citrus, and was wisely not overdressed on the pasta.

Last to arrive was an order of Red Star's mini burgers (\$12). A staple item in many pubs around the city, we were looking to see how theirs compared. Three mini burgers were accompanied with a bacon apple relish and applewood smoked cheddar cheese. The burgers were moist, the bread fresh and the condiments flawless. The relish was a stroke of pure genius, the sweetness of the apple complimented with the smoky, salty bacon. Each bite was just as good as the description sounds. These three little burgers were better than burgers I've had in some dedicated burger joints around town, and had us wishing for more.

What really stood out about Red Star Pub is that for the same price as some chicken wings or nachos elsewhere, I received outstanding food. When one needs to soak up the alcohol with food, why should flavour sacrifices be made? **V**

TUE - THU (5 PM - 2 AM), FRI (4 PM - 2 AM), SAT (7 PM - 2 AM)
RED STAR PUB
10534 JASPER AVE, 780.428.0825



ONE SIZE FEEDS ALL!

Give the gift of great taste

Ricky's Gift Cards are available in any denomination. Ask your server for details.

NOW OPEN IN FORT SASKATCHEWAN

ST. ALBERT • RED DEER • WESTLAWN • LÉDUC
EDMONTON CITY CENTRE • JASPER AVENUE
SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON • KINGSWAY
SPRUCE GROVE • FT. SASKATCHEWAN

Ricky's

Spice up your life

Pepper beer is 'out there,'
but you just might love it



ROUTE DES EPICES
BRASSERIE DU CIEL,
MONTREAL/QUEBEC
\$17.50 PER SIX PACK

Not that long ago, I did a profile on a Quebec brewery recently available in Montreal. Dieu du Ciel I went on about their creative, well-crafted beers, which are an intriguing mixture of uncompromising interpretations of traditional styles and surprising, experimental beers. I discussed five of their beers in the article.

Now, normally when I review a brewery, I make a point of not writing about them for a while, to keep the column balanced and to prevent boring repetition. But recently on a whim I picked up a six pack of another Dieu du Ciel brand—simply for my own enjoyment and experimentation.

After only one sip I knew I needed to break my rule and write about this beer soon. The beer is Route des Epices (Spice Route), and it is, of all things, a rye beer spiked with green and black

pepper. Stick with me here. I realize pepper is not an ordinary beer ingredient, but it is probably the most fascinating, original beer I have tasted all year (and I try a lot of out-there beer). It is experimental, risky, adventurous. And it also works.

Route des Epices is a pleasant red-

dish-brown with decent clarity and an appropriate off-white head that subsides into a modest surface coating. The aroma is your first tip off. It has a sharp black pepper nose with some caramel malt dancing in the background. A little nuttiness and chocolate are a part of the chorus.

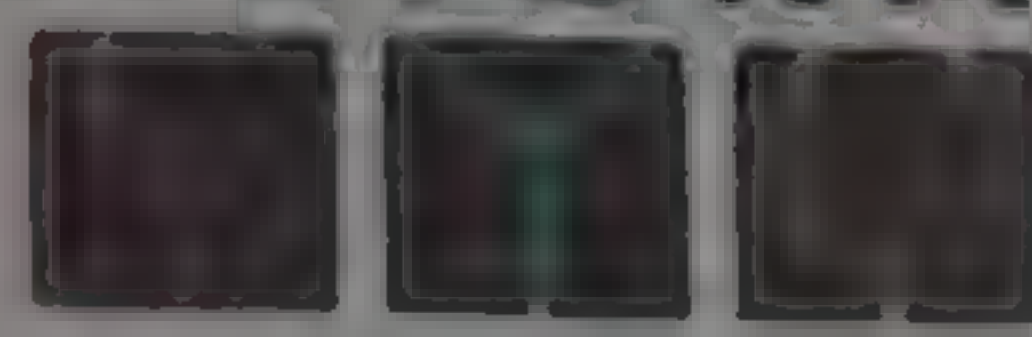
And in that crucial first sip I find brown ale sweetness with some caramel, toffee and a hint of chocolate. Before proceeding further, I must note that it is important to hold the beer at the front of your tongue for a moment to detect the sweetness. Why? Because it is swiftly overtaken by a noticeable pepper taste. The pepper tingles the roof of your mouth and sharpens the flavour. The pepper is dominant but not overdone, allowing some beer fullness to make its mark.

The pepper dries out the finish, doing the job of hops, which are subdued in this beer. The rye characteristics never really appear, however, except maybe by offering a touch of rough grain quality at the end.

I recognize pepper beer is not what most people would pick up on spec. That's why I wanted to write about it; I hoped it might spur you to try this beer. You may not like it, but you may love it. And either way, it will be worth the experiment. **V**



ALIGRA



WINE & SPIRITS

unwine-d

Choose your unique gift
and relieve shopping
stress while you enjoy
free wine tasting

Wednesdays in December
5:00pm - 9:00pm

Conveniently located at
Entrance 58 Main level
West Edmonton Mall
(near The Brick)
780 483-1083
www.aligrawineandspirits.com

Watch the Creation Unfold



what fun
it is

On Sale Now!
Fantasyland Hotel
Gift Certificates



AZUCAR PICANTE

Bruschetta	\$10.00
Capicola	\$10.00
Salami	\$10.00
Pepperoni	\$10.00
Mortadella	\$10.00
Prosciutto	\$10.00
Ham	\$10.00
Chicken	\$10.00
Beef	\$10.00
Pork	\$10.00
Lamb	\$10.00
Veal	\$10.00

- OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
- 10 LUNCH SPECIALS
- CHECK OUR ONLINE MENU
- FAMILY DINING
- AUTHENTIC LATIN MENU
- SUNDAY SPECIALS

LIVE
EVERY
WEEKEND

Appetizers & Hors d'oeuvres

A quick, convenient and delicious way to entertain at your next event.

Now That's Italian!

- A. PASTO TRAY:** Bruschetta • Olives • Artichokes • Roasted Peppers and more
SERVING SIZE: Small - \$40 Medium - \$50 Large - \$65
- B. J MEAT TRAY:** Capicola (hot or mild) • Genova Salami (hot or mild) • Mortadella • Choice of Black Forest or Honey Ham • Choice of Turkey or Chicken
SERVING SIZE: Small - \$40 Medium - \$50 Large - \$65

- D. *CHEESE TRAY:** Provolone • Asiago • Mild Cheddar • Marble • Havarti Jalapeno • Dried Fruits and Almonds
SERVING SIZE: Small - \$40 Medium - \$50 Large - \$65
- E. VEGETABLE & DIP TRAY:** Broccoli • Cauliflower • Carrots • Celery Stick • Cherry Tomatoes • Radish • Bell Peppers • Dip
SERVING SIZE: Small - \$40 Medium - \$50 Large - \$65
- F. FRUIT TRAY:** A selection of seasonal fruits
SERVING SIZE: Small - \$40 Medium - \$50 Large - \$65
- G. *PASTRY TRAY:** Italian Pastries
SERVING SIZE: Small - \$40 Medium - \$50 Large - \$65

Pick up only. All orders require 24 hours notice

10878 - 95 Street
780-424-4869

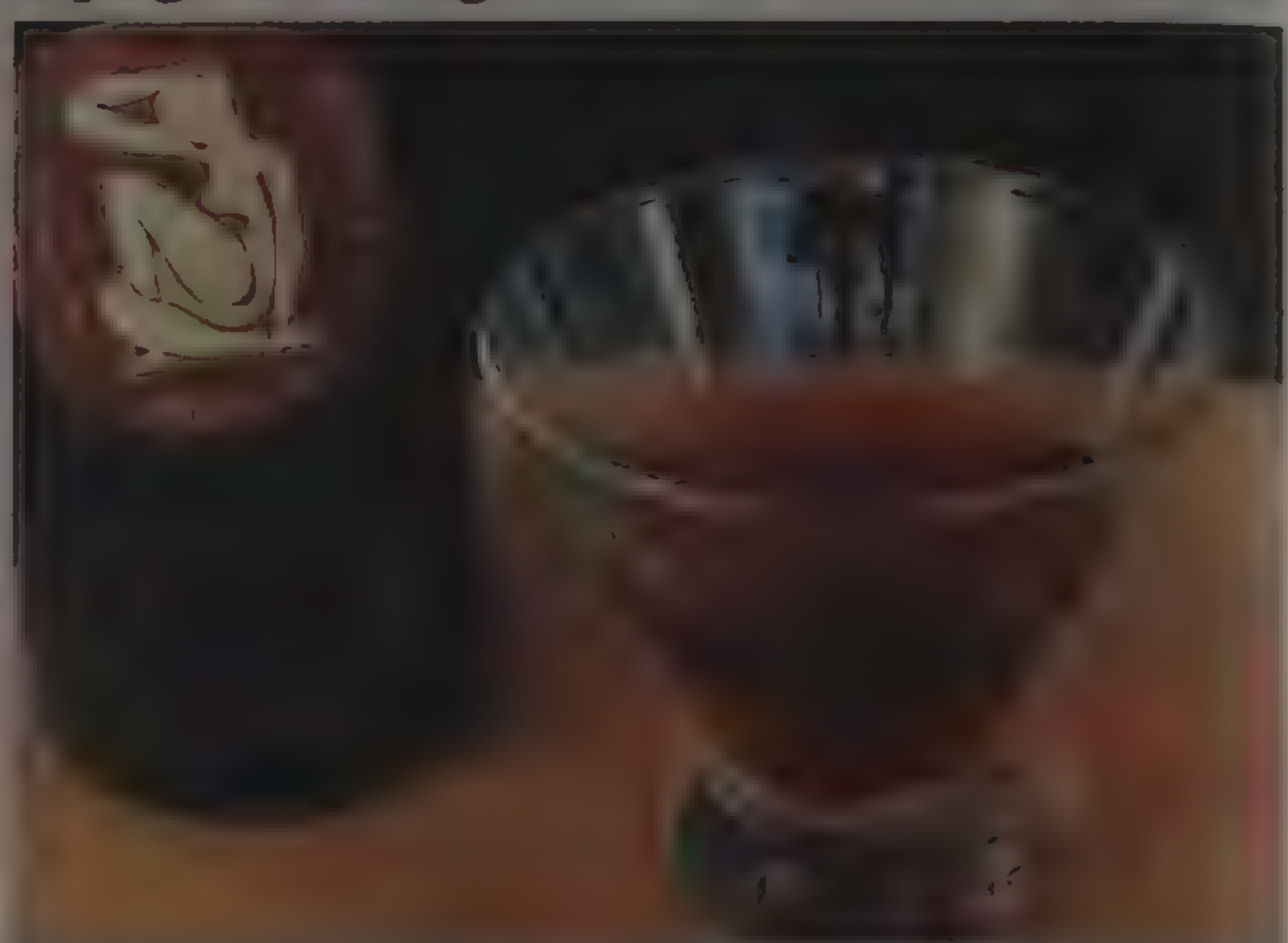
5028 - 104A Street
780-989-4869

the italian centre

LIQUOR

Going in blind

Trying something new can be a taste adventure



ADVENTUROUS >> Try replacing the vermouth in a martini with mirto.

Sometimes when I'm choosing a bottle of something new for this column, it's difficult. Other times, though, the choice makes itself. When I was browsing the shelves at Bin 104 recently, I came across a very mysterious bottle. Tallish, skinny and dark medicine-bottle green, it sported a sticker on its front that said **Mirto dell'Isola di Sardegna** and a sticker on its back that explained the bottle's contents—entirely in Italian. When I asked the clerk what this strange liqueur was, she said, "I think it's lingonberry, but I'm not sure." Curiosity got the better of me, and I bought the bottle blind.

Too impatient to research before opening the bottle, I embarked on a taste test as soon as I got home, pouring the dull, dark purply-red liqueur over ice. A first sniff of its scent didn't put me off. It smells earthy and planty, with just a touch of sweetness and a eucalyptus-like aroma. Definitely not lingonberry. The liqueur tastes lighter than it smells, with a honeyed sweetness and a hint of the bitterness promised by its scent.

After tasting mirto neat, I started to do my research. I found out that the "Isola di Sardegna" on the label is the Italian island of Sardinia, where myrtle plants grow abundantly. These bushy plants form the base of mirto liqueur. Red mirto is made from the berries of the myrtle plant, and white mirto is made from its leaves and is thus more bitter, though this is an intellectual point because the only store in the city that sells mirto only carries the red kind. I have an aunt who lived in Sardinia, and she illuminated mirto further for me. It is a national drink for Sardinians, and every household has a bottle.

Mirto is made through a simple process in which the myrtle berries are macerated in alcohol until they give up all their flavour, a process that takes up to six months. The mixture is strained and then sweetened, usually with honey, before it is bottled. That's why, although I've never seen a myrtle berry in my life, I can now say that I have a pretty good idea of how they taste. Mirto is most often served cool (refrigerated—do not put this liqueur in the freezer; its low alcohol content means it might freeze solid) as an aperitif

or digestif. Its refreshing plant-like taste is offset by its sweetness, and it is only 20 percent alcohol, so it's easy to sip.

However, mirto's herbal sweetness makes an interesting touch in drinks

Try it instead of vermouth with gin or vodka in a martini. Toss a shot of it into lemonade for a summery drink that will keep your mind off the cold temperatures. Or play with its more bitter notes by mixing it with another Italian liqueur,

bitter Campari, for a drink that resembles one of my favourite drinks, a negroni. And remember that it never hurts to try something new. ▽



RECIPE

MIRTO MARTINI

This is very similar to a classic martini. Just substitute mirto for the dry vermouth. The difference is that mirto is sweeter than vermouth, but its herbal notes take vermouth's place very nicely. Try this with gin or vodka (though I prefer the gin).

- 1 1/2 oz gin or vodka
- 1/2 oz mirto liqueur

Combine gin/vodka and mirto in a glass filled cocktail shaker. Shake to combine, then strain into a martini glass and serve.

MIRTO NEGRONI

In this drink mirto's sweetness is balanced with the bitterness of Campari. If you'd like a bit more sweetness, try adding another spoonful of mirto.

- 2 oz gin
- 1/2 oz dry vermouth
- 1/2 oz Campari
- 2 teaspoons mirto

Combine all ingredients over ice in a cocktail shaker. Shake, then strain into a cocktail glass and serve (with a twist of orange if you like).

Take ownership

Dee Bateman and Greta Sieben aren't Wild Earth's only owners



IT'S ALL YOURS >> Walk in like you own the place // Renee Porter

JAN HOSLYN

Dee Bateman and Greta Sieben are the official owners of the homey Wild Earth Bakery & Café, but if you're a newcomer to Wild Earth, that may not be readily apparent. "We have regulars who come in so often, and who are so comfortable here, they call it 'their' café and 'their' bakery," laughs Sieben.

In fact, regular customers make up a large portion of the 300 to 400 people who wander through the café doors each day—an impressive number, considering Wild Earth's only form of advertising comes from current customers who rave about "their" café to the uninitiated.

Wild Earth is an unpretentious café that serves honest food. "When you're here, it's kind of like hanging around your grandmother's kitchen," describes Sieben. "We have a kitschy, cozy atmosphere, real food, and the most incredible smells imaginable."

By real food, Sieben truly means real. Real ingredients are chopped or mixed or stirred or caressed, all by hands belonging to real people. "Everything we serve is made in-house," explains Bate-

man. "We make all of our soups, salads, wraps, sausage rolls and breads—we even make the hummus and tzatziki."

And yes, the plethora of baked goods covering the counters, occupying the shelves and tempting you from behind the display case are all made in-house. Every single scone, cake, square, cookie and loaf of bread you encounter is made the old-fashioned way by one of the seven bakers on staff. They take a mixing bowl, add flour, butter and whatever else they happen to need, and mix everything up. One thing you won't find in Wild Earth's kitchen is a prefab mix of any kind.

"Everything you find behind the display case is made fresh daily," stresses Sieben. "We don't have any day-olds. If anything's left over at the end of the day it goes to various inner-city schools and charities."

While some of the recipes that Wild Earth works from originally came from Bear's Paw Bakery in Jasper, Sieben says 99% of their creations are now unique to Wild Earth. "The recipes have been tweaked so much since we opened they're now truly our own."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 >>

RECIPE

LEMON BUNDT CAKE

1 cup butter, softened
1/2 cup shortening
3 cups sugar
5 eggs
1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
1 tablespoon lemon extract
3 cups all purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 cup milk

Cream butter, shortening and sugar until fluffy.
Add eggs, lemon peel and lemon extract and mix.
Combine flour, salt and baking powder.
Alternate adding the milk and the flour mixture, mixing only until combined.
You can add raspberry jam or whole raspberries to half the batter. Swirl into a well-greased bundt pan.
Bake at 350° for 70 minutes, or until toothpick comes out clean.

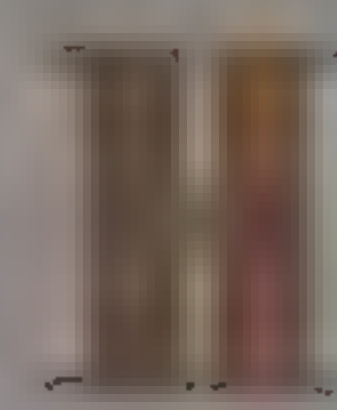
FROSTING

1/2 cup butter
1 3/4 cups icing sugar
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel

APPLE CHEDDAR POTATO SOUP

1 litre cream
4 cups cheddar cheese
1/2 cup asiago cheese
6 carrots
10 apples
7 celery sticks
8 cloves of garlic
3 onions
1/4 cup veggie stock base
15 potatoes
7 to 8 litres of water
5 tablespoons thyme
3 tablespoons basil
4 tablespoons nutmeg
1 tablespoon cinnamon
1 tablespoon turmeric

Chop all veggies, boil together with water and stock until tender.
Puree.
Season with salt and pepper and add cream and cheese. ✓



Now open for lunch!



The perfect holiday gift...
gift cards
for the chef in everyone!

Lunch: Monday to Friday 11:30 am to 2:00 pm
Dinner: Monday to Saturday from 5:00 pm

LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF 17th & JASPER

hardware grill

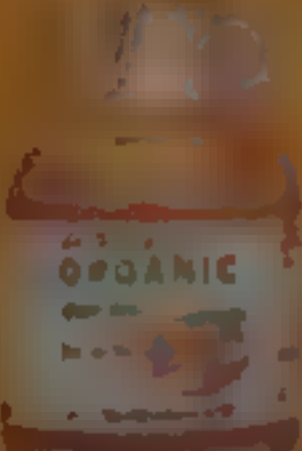
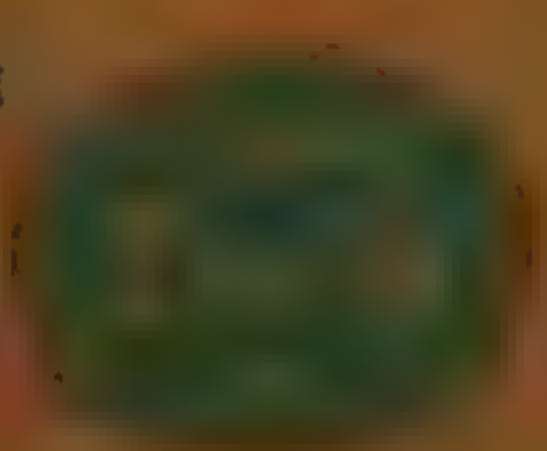
RESERVATIONS: 780-433-6807 OR ONLINE @ WWW.HARDWAREGRILL.CA

1000-121st Street, Edmonton • 780-433-6807 • www.hardwaregrill.ca



Down-to-Earth low prices

Green & Black's
Organic
Chocolate Bars
- All Flavours



Santa Cruz
Organic
Apple Cider



Organic
Potato
Chips
- All Flavours

Stock up! Sale ends December 31st

PLANET ORGANIC
MARKET

Edmonton North
12120 Jasper Avenue • 780-433-4971

Edmonton South
10110 104 Street • 780-433-6807

www.planetorganic.ca



REVUE // VONS STEAKHOUSE & OYSTER BAR

A little extra

Not a typical luncheon, Vons offers something special for midday

PETE DESROCHERS

PHOTOGRAPH BY LARRY DONOVAN

For those who haven't been there in a few years, Vons Steak House & Oyster Bar is very different from the old days. It is now an elegant, high-end and slightly more formal dining establishment.

The décor is rich and warm, the service is very polished and from now until Christmas it is open at lunch to meet seasonal demands for individual and group festive enjoyment.

So my friend and CKUA broadcast journalist, Larry Donovan, and I went to see what's new. Although I had reviewed it a number of years ago, it hadn't made a big impression on me one way or the other. So our 2009 Christmas season visit was quite a pleasant surprise.

It wasn't busy, so we were seated right next to an impressive fireplace. Larry and I both thought this would be an ideal place to bring our respective special ladies for a special occasion.

To start, we decided to split an appetizer. We were torn between the mussels in a white wine Dijon mustard sauce and the coconut shrimp. My buddy was leaning toward the coconut shrimp, so that's what we chose.

The bottom line is simply these were



DAY OR NIGHT >> Vons is sure to deliver a great meal // Eden Munro

Join us for Brunch at The Hat on Jasper every Saturday from 11am-3pm

The Hat
RESTO • PUB

Book your Christmas Parties Now!!!

251 Jasper
jennifer@thehat.ca

SHERBROOKE

650
DIFFERENT
KINDS OF
BEER!

WHAT?

YOU
WANT
MORE?!

1010 ST ALBERT TRAIL

Edmonton's
best food
website!

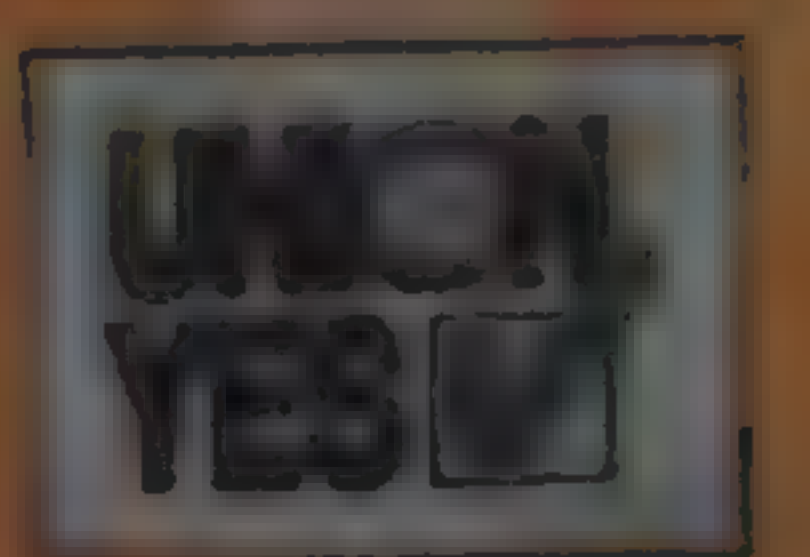
•reviews •articles
•awards •everything



another landing page courtesy: vueweekly.com

IBEW 424
Alberta's
electrical workers

**Live Better,
Work Union!**



EDMONTON 491-8886
WWW.IBEW424.NET

the best coconut shrimp I have ever had, in any restaurant, in any country and at any time. Our server joked that some people order them for desert. Then again, maybe she wasn't joking.

Four large jumbo shrimp, in a tempura style batter made with sweet coconut and Japanese breadcrumbs were served on little wooden sticks. The wonderfully sweet batter enhanced the natural taste of the shrimp, it did not overpower. The shrimp itself had a nice, soft texture, indicative of being well prepared.

The \$12 cost for a luncheon appetizer seemed a bit steep; but other than for the soup offerings, all appetizers cost between \$12 and \$16, with the crab cakes and Ahi Tuna Salad being the most expensive.

For the entrée, Larry chose the maple glazed wild salmon (\$17), while I selected the 1/2 oz slow roasted prime rib (\$23).

The salmon came with a medley of vegetables and wild rice. The hint of maple and dill was definitely there and made for a subtle and pleasurable mélange of flavours that is very compatible with the robust flavour of salmon.

A couple of things, however, need to be mentioned. The amount of salmon was clearly on the chintzy side. Although

highly enjoyable, it didn't strike either of us as a particularly great value.

The second point is my pet peeve, and something I mention in every restaurant review: the preparation of vegetables. The medley of vegetables was aesthetically appealing, but slightly overcooked.

Now, in all fairness, preparing vegetables to my standards is not easy, even for professional chefs. I happen to think they are among the most important offerings of a meal.

Aside from the health factor—which should never be ignored—vegetables give the widest possible range of unique and fresh tastes to those who appreciate. Creatively- and well-prepared vegetable dishes should be considered one of life's greatest pleasures.

So again, being fair to Vons, the vegetables were for the most part fine, and being "slightly" overcooked isn't a mortal sin.

My prime rib was super. It was prepared exactly to order and exactly the way I like. All the positive adjectives certainly hold true: juicy, tender, flavourful, satisfying.

My choice came with the same assortment of veggies, as well as garlic mashed potatoes. The potatoes had a nice texture, were served good and hot,

and had just the right touch of garlic.

The desert tray had both traditional and unique sweets. Larry went for the New York cheesecake with a mixed berry topping. No doubt, it was very creamy, smooth and delicious.

But the biggest surprise, next to the incredible coconut shrimp was what our server referred to as their Grand Marnier, espresso, mascarpone chocolate cake—wow! I can't imagine anything going better with a cup of coffee.

Yes, it was that good.

Our total bill with the tip was over \$110—not your normal luncheon bill for two. However they do have hamburgers, rib sandwiches, melts and the like that are slightly less expensive.

Larry and I wanted to get a feel for the overall quality of the restaurant since, after Christmas, Vons will only be open in the evenings, so our selections were based more typically for dinner.

There's no other way to say it. The quality is most certainly there and Vons deserves to be counted among Edmonton's finest restaurants. **V**

MON - FRI (11:30 AM - 2 PM & 4:30 PM - 10 PM), SAT & SUN (4:30 PM - 10 PM)
VONS STEAK HOUSE & OYSTER BAR
10309 - 81 AVE, 780.439.0041

DEE BATEMAN AND GRETA SIEBEN

<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

"We give our bakers total creative license to do whatever they want," Bateman adds. "In fact, some of the best ideas have come from our employees."

There are certain items customers simply can't do without everyday, like the white-chocolate raspberry scones and the lemon bundt cake, but you never know what else might make an appearance. Baker Darcy Scott grins and says "Sometimes I just look at the cake pan and ask it what it wants to be."

Nothing ever leaves the kitchen without being sampled first. If it's not good, it doesn't go out. Customers get to sample, too—a lot. But everything they get to nibble on has already been approved by the bakers. "We always have something out for our customers to try," laughs Sieben. "People say we're even

better than Costco."

Although Wild Earth uses some organic ingredients—all the coffee is organic—Bateman says it isn't really a health-food place. There's something for everyone, from whole wheat to gluten-free to vegan to sugar-free. And then there's the simply downright decadent. "We're a bakery and café with a conscience. We pride ourselves on making everything from scratch, whether it's a gluten-free cake or a rich chocolate-overdose square. And it's all made by people who love what they do. At the same time, we strive to be as environmentally friendly as possible."

"Another great thing about our place is that something is always coming out of the oven, whether it's eight in the morning or three in the afternoon," comments Bateman. "Other bakeries run out of stuff in the afternoon. We never do. Something fresh is always making an appearance and giving off the most amazing smell." In fact, the

ovens run 22 hours a day, seven days a week. The only time they get a break is between 10 pm and midnight.

Coffee is also taken very seriously at Wild Earth. Barista Chelsey Campbell laughs, saying she's "obsessed" with it. "We're always striving to craft the perfect drink to go with all the great food. It's an experience in and of itself."

Bateman and Sieben both feel Wild Earth is more than just a café and bakery—it's a gathering spot that has turned into the hub of the neighbourhood, with its own unique vibe and spirit. Employees are treated with respect and customers feel like family.

Larry Dufresne, one of Wild Earth's many regulars, says he simply can't stay away. "I'm here five to six days a week. Coming here feels like being at home." **V**

DEE BATEMAN AND GRETA SIEBEN
WILD EARTH BAKERY & CAFÉ
2802 - 93 ST, 780.425.8423



PARKALLEN RESTAURANT

Wishes you a Merry Christmas
Come in for a holiday dinner or gift card today.

plus, we are closing in January
for renovations. Keep an eye out for our
new look!

7018 - 109 street | 780.436.8080

www.parkallen.com

MAKI MAKI
Japanese | Vietnamese | Restaurant & Bar

SPECIAL THIS WEEK:
SPICY TUNA ROLL

BOOK YOURS
CHRISTMAS PARTY NOW
780.436.8298

OPEN LATE FRIDAY & SATURDAY TIL 2 AM
8109-101 STREET EAT-IN & TAKE OUT

**Tons of
Fun &
Amazing
Food!**

MAYFIELD INN & SUITES
Country Club • Casino • Spa • Restaurant

16615 109 Ave.
mayfieldinnedmonton.com
1.800.661.9804

The Gallery
has gone a bit
COUNTRY



Just off Prairies on Aspen Dr.
780.436.1111
Open - Close

SNOWZONE



PREVIEW // ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

Northern passages

Arctic Winter Games promote grassroots sport, cultural balance

JARETT STASTNY

Illustration by [illegible]

I'm spreading grease on my hands as I mentally prepare for the traditional Dene game of stick pull. Somehow I've knocked out two other competitors and have advanced to the finals where I now face a problem: about twice my size, not only does my challenger have a physical edge on me but I can't help suspecting he's done this before.

Facing each other we step forward and plant our right feet side by side, my right arm hanging comfortably above my grip (if you can call it that) on my side of a greased dowel. The dowel is about an inch in diameter and shy of a foot long. The name of the game is also the object of the game—you simply try to pull the stick out of your opponent's hand.

The referee yells go and I start testing the strength of my grip. Immediately I can tell I'm outmatched. I can sense an inevitable loss as the stick slowly but surely slips through my clenched fist. I struggle in vain to somehow correct my failing grip but my opponent is steadfast and takes the win.

I know what you're thinking, not much of a spectator sport is it? Well, I did win a consolation prize by having the "most interesting face" during competition, and, from what I was told post-game, my expressions alone were quite entertaining.

Most Edmontonians know about Grande Prairie. That is to say we know approximately where it is on the map, we know it'll take four or five hours to get there by car, and we know enough to expect the temperature to drop along the way. There are, however, more than a few things that most of us don't know about Grand Prairie.

One of those things is that the 2010 Arctic Winter Games are being held Mar 6 - 13, 2010, in our neighbouring



LUGING CONTROL >> This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Arctic Winter Games // Supplied

city to the north. The AWGs are not your typical winter games. Sure, it's a gathering of competition in 21 different sports including hockey and skiing, but when was the last time you remember seeing dog sled teams go head to head or caught a competitive game of snow snake? Yeah, thought so.

The contrast among traditional Dene games and modern sports such as slalom skiing are part of what make the AWGs so unique. Another part is the participants—youth hailing from the circumpolar North, meaning Northern Alberta, Nunavik, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Alaska, Greenland and Russia as well as other northern parts of Europe.

Edmontonians who've been through our long, cold winters can probably understand what it means and what

it takes to live even further north. To keep sport alive in an arctic environment, consisting of typically small and isolated communities, takes a certain kind of ingenuity and passionate sportsmanship.

The 2010 AWGs mark the fortieth anniversary of the games and a long-standing legacy of providing both a podium to showcase their skills and a meeting place to promote a sense of community and familiarity among remote northern communities and people. In coming to Grande Prairie, the AWGs will be making their southernmost stop in the history of the games.

Grand Prairie's local ski hill, Nitehawk Recreation Area, will host AWG alpine skiing, freestyle skiing, and snowboarding events. This includes half



STICK IT TO 'IM >> Jarrett Stastny competes in the stick pull, a traditional Dene game // Supplied

pipe in the brand new terrain park and big air at the ten-foot tall aerial jump. The Nitehawk aerial jump, one of only a handful in Canada, was invaluable in the training of current Olympic hopeful and AWG, sport ambassador Ryan Blais. Blais says the games are "a chance to promote our region, and welcome an international audience to visit our community and see first-hand the spirit of our people."

Surprisingly, another unique part of Nitehawk, the natural luge track, is not on the bill for the AWGs. The track is one of only two internationally sanctioned luge tracks in Canada. John "Luge" Gibson is, as his nickname suggests, essentially the one-man show when it comes to luge at Nitehawk.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22 >>

SETTLED IN LUXURY

Many of the first settlers heading to Grande Prairie from Edmonton braved what was known simply as the "long trail." Piling their belongings perilously onto wagons as best they could and choosing to travel during winter in order to avoid getting stuck in the mud, the first settlers reached the end of the trail far sooner than they reached their destination.

The Canadian government's promotional campaign of the Peace Country region neglected to mention that the trail to it had not yet been fully cleared, let alone travelled. Thankfully, the hardy settlers pushed through and built their new lives in their new city—a history that the present Grande Prairie residents have not forgotten.

Eat

If you are visiting the city midweek, check out the wildly popular free Bison BBQ on Wednesday evenings. If you can't make Wednesday, you can always make up for it at Jake's Down South—a proudly independent restaurant that features local game on a day-to-day basis. Alternatively, if you need to escape the cold, grab a bite at the Acropolis Greek restaurant which features belly dancing shows that include crowd participation sure to warm you up.

Stay

For places to stay, there's the very modern Podollan Inn and Spa (podollan.com/grandprairie), or if you prefer, there are several small bed and breakfasts that can accommodate you if you book in advance.

Extra

A Rotary Bus tour runs three times a week to offer visitors a glimpse of the city and its past. Another interesting part of Grande Prairie's history is the discovery of the Pachyrhinosaurus. To catch a glimpse of this elusive orange dinosaur you'll either have to pay a visit to the Grande Prairie Museum or try to catch the 2010 AWG mascot, Alluk, as he follows the games.

easyrider

snowboards

SELECTION !

Over 520 different snowboards in stock.
Over 110 different models of bindings.
Over 80 different models of boots.

Come check us out!

4211-106 Street Edmonton • 780-413-4554 • www.TheEasyRider.com

Playing with fire

Irresponsible resort expansion can lead to Powder Burn

BOBBI BARBARICH

ILLUSTRATION BY LYCOM

Concerns about growth, water availability, the declining quality of life, or habitat fragmentation are not slowing the region's growth. New arrivals continue to flock in search of the next best place."

Samuel Glick's epilogue to *Powder Burn* (2003) nails the major issues in Eagle Vail, CO before, and since, September 19, 1998. That evening, fire erupted and destroyed \$12 million worth of chair lifts, a massive log cabin and other mountaintop buildings at the largest ski resort in the United States.

The fires temporarily stalled expansion into federally-owned old-growth forest in which the last numbers of a threatened lynx species were rumored to dwell. Though the extreme environmental group Earth Liberation Front claimed credit for the arson "in the name of the lynx," the book ends four years after the fire and two years before ELF's claim could be substantiated. Evidence was destroyed in the fire or lost by the jumble of agencies in the chaotic aftermath of various investigators and innumerable potential suspects.

Powder Burn is about social, environmental and economic unrest and distaste, growing themes in the expanding ski industry. Vail Resorts Inc. is a Wall Street corporation which also owns three other Colorado resorts and is known to some as the "Evil Empire." Tensions between lifestyle skiers and big corporations like VRI are inevitable but when a corporation proceeds without regard for local input, forces employees to conform to unreasonably strict standards and pillages land and water reserves beyond the point of excess, it cultivates an army of enemies.

As a breed, ski bums eschew corpo-

rate mentality, but they're arguably the lifeblood of any ski area. Small businesses are terrified they'll be extinguished, and many are. Nearby settlements and towns must fight for water and land use rights, and they usually lose. That land and water, if not used for the actual ski area, is consumed by rich second- and third-home owners, who occupy their estates less

Residents depend on the mountain for their livelihoods and their recreation, but corporate expansion brings people who only care about—presumably—getting bigger and making more money.

then a month per year. The result is a hollowed community crunched between looming empty houses. When your life and livelihood are at stake, extreme measures result.

Expansion is controversial no matter who's doing it, but Vail Resorts Inc. pissed off the people of Eagle Valley. Residents depend on the mountain for their livelihoods and their recreation, but corporate expansion brings people who only care about—presumably—getting bigger and making more money.

Multi-millionaires who build trophy homes are often the only ones who can afford a resort's expansive efforts, leaving a neglected town in the shadow of modern units built at the resort base. While VRI, being one of the deepest pockets with the biggest plans on the continent, is an extreme example of community detachment and environmental disregard, it represents what some smaller developers emulate and long time locals loathe.

Glick's lengthy description of Vail's fortunes and misfortunes exemplifies the "New West" and its brazen

economy run by modern mavericks and recreation refugees. Vail itself is a forerunner of the intense social, cultural and economic changes renovating the West. The "New West," as Glick calls it, displaces the traditional West's settlers, ranchers, miners and loggers. Vail, the corporation, is the bad guy while locals and even environmentalists are eventually por-

trayed as the good guys.

Without *Powder Burn's* epilogue, the story would have been lost amidst Glick's exhaustive hyperboles about every suspect's potential involvement. But the epilogue pulls the issues together, pointing fingers and reasoning that anyone could have done it—either in Vail or at another resort.

People and animals alike have deep stakes in ski area expansion. The book paints a suspicious blanket over resort developers, and elevates those who oppose expansion—a rather one-sided tale. Regardless of how it was written, however, *Powder Burn* is an ominous, intricate look at how not to expand a ski resort, and all those who have concerns of its impact. **V**

Post Script: Ten years after what was the costliest act of ecoterrorism at the time, the ELF's inner workings and acts—responsible for 20 arsons between 1996 and 2001—were revealed by an informant. Chelsea Gerlach and William Rodgers were responsible for the Vail arsons. Gerlach is serving nine years for her involvement. Rodgers hanged himself while in prison for another ecoterrorism act.



Dale Nguyen

QUICK SERVICE • GEAR FOR ALL • LIFT TICKETS

the **FASTEST** way to the slopes

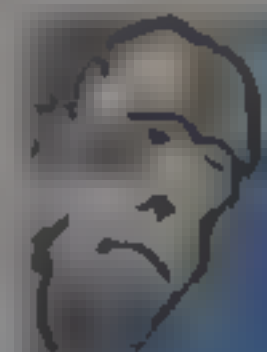


stop at
Edge Control
in Jasper

sport ski package

EDGE CONTROL SKI SHOP

626 Connaught Drive • Ph. 888-242-3343 • Jasper, Alberta



SNOW ZONE CA

rentals & demos
ski & snowboard
equipment & accessories
780-651-3036

200M NOTE
if it snows 20cm
demo rentals are
\$20
450 price tag



Mid Week Winter Promotions:

- ★ Monday 2 for 1 rentals or demos
- ★ Tuesday Toque Tuesday, all 25% off.
- ★ Wednesday Ladies half price rentals or demos.

Archaic demo available

Line Pandora • Line EP Pro • Line Sir Francis Bacon • K2 Bellbird • K2 Obashed • K2 Misbehaved

FREEWHEEL • 610 PRINCE STREET • 780-651-3036

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

Gibson joined the national luge team in 1996 and is still competing today. He plans to compete in the 2011 World championships, when his home track at Nitehawk will be the host. Apart from his own training, and overseeing the maintenance of the track and equipment, Gibson is also a NCCP level one luge coach and offers affordable luge lessons to the public.

With a track record like that it's hard to resist getting a lesson from Gibson. "A luge consists of three main parts, the reigns, the runners, and the seat," Gibson explains. Apparently, luge originated as a form of transportation for people living in mountainous regions—they could essentially luge down to the local town, then use the luge as a sleigh to haul their goods back home. The shape of the luge is still fundamental to many styles of European children's toboggans, which might explain why European teams have dominated the sport for years.

As a complete beginner, I'm not yet

ready for the competitive luge track so I try some turns on the side of the ski slope instead. The basic idea is that, while lying supine in the seat, you lean the way you want to carve. Sprawling out with the right arm while the left controls the reigns and simultaneously pressing against the runner with the left foot enables the right runner with the grip it needs to make a right hand turn.

The first thing Gibson has us try is sitting up and planting our feet in the snow. This will bring your luge to a dead stop but not until showering you with snow. Despite my initial training, overconfidence leads to me fouling up a turn, losing control while failing to correct myself and nearly colliding with the row of boards lining the luge track. I imagine small European children scoffing at my inexperience.

I keep at it, however, and after about an hour I'm making decent turns and weaving through most of the pylons Gibson has placed on the hill—a small victory, and a whole lot of fun. Even though luge is not an official sport of the AWGs, the experience of learning

a new sport reminded me of just how priceless sport is in terms of health, excitement, and culture ... and that's what the AWGs are all about.

Grande Prairie is also home to three fantastic cross-country skiing areas that will host the AWG cross-country skiing and biathlon events. Within the city limits, Muskoseepi Park offers a convenient and casual trail that spans the 1100-acre parkland. The Wapiti Nordic Ski Club, a top-notch facility merely a five minute drive from the city, offers lessons and rentals for the beginner as well as races and clubs for more experienced skiers. Snowy forests of black spruce break away for over 35 kilometres of trails.

To get even closer to nature try a loop at Saskatoon Island Provincial Park. One of the first parks in Alberta to be granted Provincial Park status, the Island gets its name from the Saskatoon bushes that dominate the ground and provide an ideal nesting area for territorial trumpeter swans, one of the largest and most beautiful birds in Canada.

Of course, the downside to an island

lacking in tree density is the wind, and my visit to the island happened to land on the coldest and windiest day of my stay. We came across a trio of moose eyeing us suspiciously—wondering, surely, why we were out under those conditions.

Yet somehow, the miserable conditions only made my enjoyment of the sport that much more intense. Being the only people in sight was accompanied by a unique quality of feeling that for the time being, we could claim that experience and the nature surrounding us as our own. Maybe it's just me but winter sports also seem to make me appreciate the return to both the physical and emotional warmth of your home that much more.

Each and every sport in the Arctic Winter Games has its own way of awakening your spirit through physical activity—whether it's the thrill of a new sport or the comfort of a familiar one. Whether you grew up playing hockey but are new to knuckle hop, or if you're a pro at Alaskan high kick and never even heard of basketball, the feelings are universal and they're a great way to

explore new cultures while showing off your own. The opening and closing ceremonies of the 2010 AWGs promise to be spectacular: they represent the lasting legacy of the games and promote the virtues of sport not only in Arctic living but universally.

Perhaps the AWG 2010 logo speaks to that best: the three interlocking rings represent athletic competition, cultural exhibition, and social interaction, the ribbon in the black background represents the northern lights in the night sky, and the white circle framing the logo representing the circumpolar world.

In its blend of traditional and modern sport, one of the key focuses is to examine the combination of traditional teachings with encroaching modernity as experienced by those living in the circumpolar north. One of the AWG goals is to explore and promote balance between the two. As the rest of us—those below the northern latitudes—rush to keep up with a rapidly evolving society, it might be wise from time to time, to heed that call of the north. V

PIZZA

FROM A WOOD-FIRED OVEN

burgers • steak • pasta

chicken • ribs • salad • vegetarian dishes • souvlaki • donair

Great daily ~~and~~ nightly specials

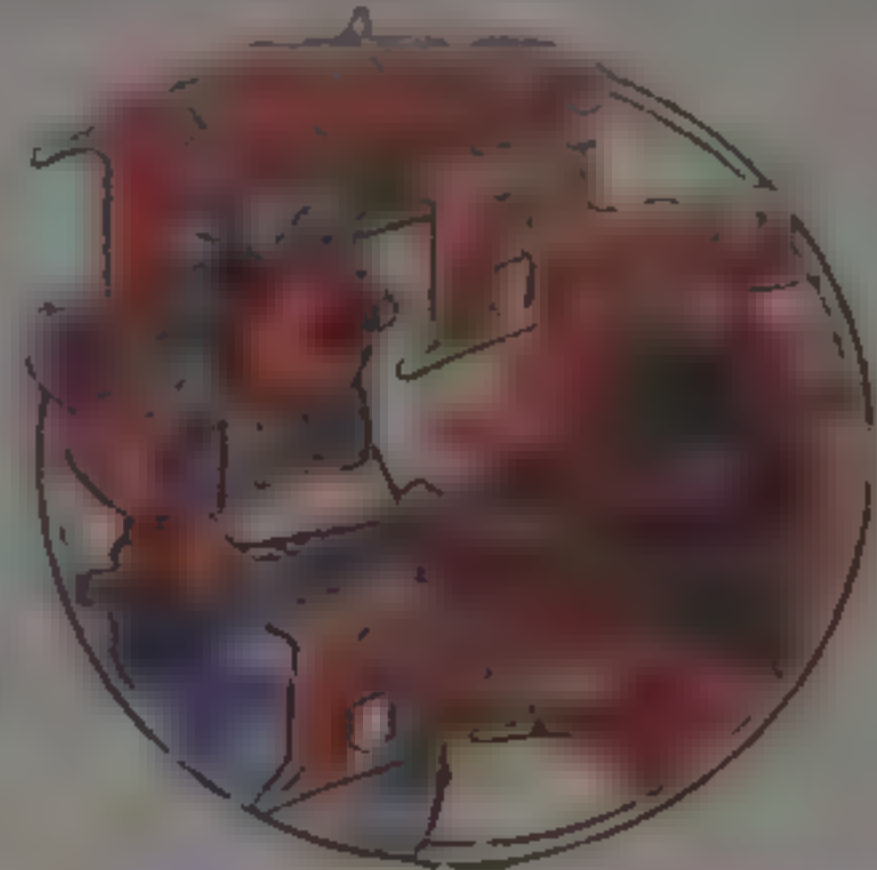
Games room ~~and~~ Rooftop patio

Free delivery

Open daily 11am ~~to~~ 11pm

Call for winter hours

1-888-744-3113 ~~or~~ N° 402 Connaught



IT'S ABOUT THE BEER

Our goal is to create the highest quality beer possible. The best ingredients and time tested recipes produce fresh, modern beers that are enjoyed by everyone.

IT'S ABOUT THE FOOD

Good beer deserves good food. Our chefs prepare "local fusion cuisine" with a southern twist from quality Canadian ingredients.

624 Connaught | 780.852.4111

PETE'S CLUB

in Jasper

BEST

Live Music and Dance Club in the Mountains!

614 Patricia Street 780.852.6262

Downstream

RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

JASPER'S FINEST PUBLIC HOUSE & VENUE

DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CUISINE

A REAL LOCAL FAVORITE

NEWLY RENOVATED

10% OR \$2.00 OFF

*GOOD FOR 10% OFF FOOD WITH BEVERAGE PURCHASE OR \$2.00 OFF YOUR FIRST BEVERAGE WITH FOOD PURCHASE. LIMIT OF ONE DISCOUNT PER VISIT. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

**JASPER
PAGES**

342
package starting at
\$88
per person per day
(based on 2 adults plus taxes)
includes
days of skiing and nights of accommodation and a Kokanee welcome package

Whistlers Inn
Jasper National Park
1-800-282-9919
whistlerinn.com

GET HIGHER, FASTER
ON THE CANADIAN ROCKIES EXPRESS
High speed train in the Rockies gets to the top of the mountain in half the time!

MASSIVE SNOW!
ANOTHER FOOT OF SNOW ON SUNDAY NIGHT!

MARMOT BASIN
JASPER-CANADIAN ROCKIES

Scrooge Package at the Jasper Inn

Best Western

Total cost is \$100 per person
includes all taxes and fees
subject to availability
opening from Dec 10 to Dec 20, 2009

BEAR HILL LODGE
STAY WITH FRIENDS

Nestled at the forest's edge within the town of Jasper, our location provides convenient access to local amenities and the town centre. We offer a variety of accommodations from cozy cottages to spacious suites, featuring welcoming Rocky Mountain decor, luxurious duvets and comfortable beds.

Whirlpool/Sauna • Fireplaces/Kitchenettes • Private bedrooms available

A restful haven of Rocky Mountain comfort
BearHillLodge.com • 780.852.3209 • 100 Bonhomme St. Jasper

Everyday Specials
\$15 Dinner Special
+ glass of wine
5-7pm happy hour at the wine bar
\$6.95 Breakfast Special
Daily Lunch Specials
www.papageorgesrestaurant.com
404 Connaught Drive, Jasper
780-852-3351

make the Astoria your
\$78
Bed & Breakfast
all Dec 17th

BASE
for winter activities in Jasper
Wonderful By Nature

Scrooge Ski Package
\$134.
Includes: 1 night hotel room
1 Marmot lift ticket
Breakfast
Parking

Special
"pick-your-discount"
when you check-in pick your own discount from 10 to 50%

1-800-661-7343
www.astoriahotel.com

Astoria Hotel
Jasper National Park
ALBERTA • CANADA

snow conditions report

Local

RABBIT HILL • Open on limited terrain.

SNOW VALLEY • 60cm base, 4 lifts and 3 runs open.

SUN RIDGE • 30cm base, 3 lifts and 2 runs open.

EDMONTON SKI CLUB • Opens soon ...

Alberta

CANADA OLYMPIC PARK • 5 lifts and 4 runs open.

CASTLE MOUNTAIN • Opens on Dec. 12.

LAKE LOUISE • 78-102cm base, 36cm new snow, 9 lifts and 96 runs open.

MARMOT BASIN • 106cm base, 8cm of new snow, 7 lifts and 18 runs open.

MT. NORQUAY • Open for weekends only. Regular hours start Dec. 4.

NAKISKA • Open for weekends only. Regular hours start Dec. 5.

SUNSHINE VILLAGE • 110cm base, 7cm of new snow, 12 lifts and 95 runs open.

TAWATINAW • Open soon ...

KINOSOO RIDGE • 25cm base, 3 runs and 2 lifts open.

WETASKIWIN SKI CLUB • Open soon ...

MISERY MOUNTAIN • Open soon ...

NITEHAWK • Open Dec. 4.

B.C.

APEX • Opens on Dec. 5.

BIG WHITE • 103cm base, 25cm of new snow, 8 lifts and 56 runs open.

FERNIE • Opens on Dec. 5.

KICKING HORSE • Opens on Dec. 5.

KIMBERLEY • Opening on the weekend of December 12th & 13th, Regular hours start December 18th.

MT. WASHINGTON • Opens on Dec. 11.

PANORAMA • Opens on Dec. 11.

POWDER KING • 161cm base, 0cm of new snow.

RED MOUNTAIN • Opens on Dec. 18.

REVELSTOKE • Opens on Dec. 5.

SILVER STAR • 105cm base, 27cm of new snow.

SUN PEAKS • 94-115cm base, 19cm of new snow, 9 lifts and 116 runs open.

WHISTLER/BLACKCOMB • 184cm base, 48cm of new snow.

WHITE WATER • 144cm base, 12cm of new snow.

U.S.A.

49 NORTH • 109cm base, 3 lifts and 48 runs open.

BIG SKY • 94cm base, 6 lifts and 50 runs open.

CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN • Opening soon...

GREAT DIVIDE • 63cm base, 3 cm of new snow.

LOOKOUT PASS • 96cm base, 3cm of new snow.

MT. SPOKANE • 61cm base, 4 lifts and 16 runs open.

SCHWEITZER MT. • 96cm base, 0cm of new snow.

SILVER MT. RESORT • 73cm base. Early season hours.

SUN VALLEY • 83cm base, 0cm of new snow.

All conditions accurate as of Nov 25, 2009

Go to **SNOWZONE.ca** to find web exclusive stories, links to resorts, and up-to-the-minute nordic conditions.

Take a card, any card

Resorts offer discounts, free lift tickets and other perks

Almost every ski resort is offering a discount card this season. Some resorts are partnering and that gives you flexibility in where to go. If you are planning to ski or ride more than one day this season, I strongly suggest getting one. Some cards can be purchased online or at your local grocery and sporting goods store; for some it's probably best to buy them right at the resort's guest services centre. Most of the cards are only available until Christmas so you better hurry and get yours.

The Sunshine Marmot Card

Skiing and boarding can be expensive at times but Sunshine Village and Marmot Basin is doing its part in reducing the pain. The resort wants you to return to their slopes multiple times and they've got a card to help you do this. This winter if you purchase a Sunshine Marmot card for \$79.95, the

first, third and seventh lift tickets are free and all the others are \$13 – \$26 off depending on the day in the season.

The card is equally valid at both resorts and you can pick and choose as you like. Sunshine has even sweetened the deal by adding their Sunshine Mountain Lodge to the bundle of savings.

Sunday to Thursday, the card reduces slopeside room and skiing from \$143 to \$91. On weekends it drops from \$143 to \$117. When you can score a slopeside room including lift ticket for \$91, you know you are getting a sweet deal.

The best part is the snow conditions at both resorts. I can't remember the last time the Knob at Marmot opened in November and Goat's Eye at Sunshine is in shape as well. The card can be purchased at most sporting goods stores in Alberta but you better phone ahead and check availability.

The Lake Louise Card

This year the Lake Louise card is \$99 with two free days skiing at anytime during the season and all other lift tickets purchased are only \$50 for adults and \$40 for youths and seniors. That's a huge savings considering lift tickets are \$80 per day. There's even a direct to the lift special that gets you in line ahead of the crowds. The Lake Louise card can be purchased at Sobeys, IGA, Sport Chek, Sport Mart and AMA.

The Cruise Castle Mountain Card

This year Castle has decided to get into the ski card frenzy. The card can be purchased for \$69.95 and your first day skiing is free. Any further lift tickets are \$13 off. There is some versatility to this card because they have hooked up with Lake Louise offering a 25 percent discount on their daily rates. The best place for Edmontonians to purchase is right at the hill on your first arrival. **W**



Join outdoors editor Jeremy Derksen
as he prepares to solo run the

DEATH RIVER 2010

125 kilometres,
three mountain peaks,
17,000 feet of total elevation gain and
a major river crossing in 24 hours.

VUEWEEKLY.COM/TOTHEDEATH2010

Look in next week's issue for details on how to

WIN A SKI TRIP

including lift tickets and accommodation.

PLUS, if you are a member of our First Read mailout, you'll be eligible to win dinner too. So, sign up to win! {go to vueweekly.com and subscribe to First Read}

No fly zone

Jessica Jerome clears the air over Vancouver

How does one decide to jump while hurtling at 80 – 100 kilometres per hour off a ramp overhanging a long, steep hill, launching airborne for between 90 and 200 metres? "You start small and work your way up," says Jessica Jerome.

Jerome started skiing when she was five years old, spending most of her alpine time in the trees and flying off jumps. Since grade two, she's done nothing but learn to fly. She remembers the day when representatives from the ski jumping club came to her Park City, Utah elementary school and described the sport. "Go off jumps all day without chair lifts? It was awesome!" she quips over the phone from her Park City home.

"Landing is natural," explains the three time K90 US champion (2002, 2003 and 2005). I don't understand, though she certainly makes it look simple. "It's just the natural end to going that far. Flying is the hard thing to get right. But when you do, it's the most satisfying thing." Jerome doesn't hear much when she's up there. She's just trying to stay still, maintain clean lines ... and relax. "It just comes with training for years, I guess." Jerome has been jumping up to eight times per day, three to six times a week, for 15 years. At 22, she hadn't thought about the Olympics prior to the last few

years. But then ski jumping has a particularly "old boys club" feel.



Of all the Winter Olympic sports, ski jumping is the only one restricted to just men. An Olympic event since 1924, it was one of the original six. Says Jerome, "Women did not have their own ski jumping circuit until 2002. Prior to this, we competed with the men. But you can't compare us. We need our own events."

In 2006, the International Ski Federation (FIS) decided to allow women to jump at the 2009 Nordic World Ski Championships, and later to compete in the team event at the 2011 World Championship. The FIS then proposed women's ski jumping be included at the 2010 Olympics.

The proposal was quickly rejected by the IOC, who cited that women's ski jumping has yet to fully establish itself internationally; there are too few athletes and not enough countries participating in the sport. In reference to the small number of potential competitors, IOC president Jacques Rogge vaguely explained, "We do not want the medals to be diluted and watered down" by less than Olympic calibre athletes who may end up competing by default.

After three years of an international battle to overturn the International Olympic Committee's decision to exclude women

from competing in the 2010 Winter Olympics, culminating in two days of legal argument on the women's complaint that their exclusion violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the B.C. Court of Appeal rejected their final bid. An earlier court decision found that women were being discriminated against, thus the group of 15 female ski jumpers felt they had a strong appeal. Yet Judge Ann Rowles remarked that Olympic events are determined by the IOC and therefore beyond the charter's reach.

Without Olympic aspirations, would-be participants like Jerome feel they have little reason to compete in North America. "Olympics are the be all, end all of sport in the West. To Europeans, the Continental Cup is a big deal. But here, everyone asks if you're going to the Olympics. When the answer is no, they shrug."

Jerome describes the men as rock stars, a traditional-minded Euro bunch who want to maintain male exclusivity. "We'd tour with girls and there'd be gossip



PERMISSION TO LAND: DENIED >> Jessica Jerome and her fellow women ski jumpers won't get to compete at Vancouver 2010. // Supplied

about trying to bring women's jumping. Officials would come to watch and we'd get so nervous but I've jumped for years without ever worrying. The case made us bond on a different level, we now have a common goal."

With or without the Olympics, Jerome is currently training for the 2011 Worlds. "I'm at peace with not going to the Olympics in my life. It's like there's a party and I'm not invited. But there are other parties."

no one before they are gone!
ON-SALE ONLY til Dec 23/09

1st Day FREE

\$69.95

SAVE UP TO \$13 per day on FULL-DAY lift tickets after your FREE day through the entire '09/10 season.

Castle Mountain ADULT

CRUISE THE CASTLE & SAVE

available at Pacesetter or Sundance locations

skicastle.ca | 1.888.SKITONS

Check out castlevacations.ca for the Best in the West ski'n sleep packages

Get outside already.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
& SNOWSHOEING

CAMPERS VILLAGE
OUTDOOR COUNTRY STORE

Edmonton South
3235 Calgary Trail

Edmonton West
4170 Street



Jackpot!

Switch to TELUS TV* and save.

Switching your TV to TELUS is easy,
especially when you hear the price.

Sign up today and get:

- Tuner: FREE
- Superior picture and sound quality
- Professional installation
- 24/7/365 technical support

Just

\$9⁹⁵
/mo.*

for 6 months in a bundle,
no contract required.

Switch today and save. Call 310-MYTV (6988).

TELUS

the future is friendly®

*December 31, 2009: to residential clients in Edmonton only who have not subscribed within the past 90 days to TELUS TV service. Internet or Home Phone service required. Offer includes the Essentials (84 pre-selected channels). Other channels and packages available for additional cost. See TELUS TV website for details. †Telus is a registered trademark of Telus Communications Inc. © 2009 Telus Communications Inc.



32 Lee Henderson



Arts Reviews

Find reviews of past theatre, dance and visual arts shows on our website.

REVUE // POSTER BOYS

Take a picture

Poster Boys' candid, tender moments trump its big issue explorations



PICTURE THIS >> Caroline and a figment of her imagination get planning in *Poster Boys* // Ian Jackson, EPIC Photography

PAUL BLINOV
// PAUL@VUEWEEKLY.COM

There's a scene early in *Poster Boys* that has Jack (Jeff Haslam) and Carson (Frank Zotter) posing for a photo, one destined to grace an equal rights ad for a credit union and to also shake the foundations of their relationship—if they can get it right, that is. Both are rigid and awkward, straining to find a natural pose while looking less comfortable in every new idea suggested (played for comedy, of course). Finally, Jack asks if they can pose more like a candid shot at a party. The change is sudden and perfect: they appear natural, comfortable, ad-worthy. When they aren't trying, it clicks. So does the camera.

That's what *Poster Boys*, both the script and the Theatre Network's production, captures best: the shared moments of candid intimacy, where people are just enjoying each other's company; moments that don't really mean anything, but somehow better demonstrate the natural chemistry that turns friendships into something deeper. It's smartly directed, nicely paced and well-acted, and balances its comedy with the more fractured emotional territory when it focuses on people as opposed to its issues, which aren't quite on the backburner, but feel like they should be.

In the above scene, the ad Jack and Carson are posing for is the story's catalyst, bringing Jack and workaholic ad exec Caroline (Davina Stewart), back into

the same room 13 years after their relationship ended. Now, he's committed to Carson; she's only committed to her soulless job, save an on-the-side fling with her assistant Brad (Jesse Gervais, in solid comic form here).

She thinks she can handle working alongside him without the old emotions mucking it up. It's not that easy, of course, and the struggle to keep her emotions in check and just do the job with integrity makes up the core story. Stewart shoulders it all well as a character invested in the workaholic mindset, being dragged back to a time when she was open to others and, subsequently, happier.

Given the strength of the acting, we're quite content to just watch these people interact: the titular pair are immaculate as Jack and Carson, complemented by Haslam's effortless, grounded sense of comedy and timing, and Zotter, who—swapping between Carson and a high-heeled, bob-haired female figment of Caroline's imagination—takes his characters to the top without going over.

When the ads strikes controversy, the shockwaves ripple through the relationships, but when *Poster Boys* goes into these bigger picture issues in the second act, it lacks the dynamics its more personal moments have. The simple handling of the ad's backlash from the Catholic Church—while rooted in truth—seems a bit dated here, and brushed aside for an easy fix instead of

a proper exploration. The same goes for Carson's inner struggle with both Catholicism and his sexuality, which feels underwritten.

Still, those are issues with the script, not the production: director Bradley Moss keeps the lulls down and the whole technically ingenious show rolling. Ian Jackson adds simple screen projections to Lisa Hancharek's set and the half-real, half-projection staging is interesting and used effectively.

The best moments remain shared, intimate and found between pairs. There's a brilliant scene where Jack and Carson share jokes over a dinner setting only to have Caroline rewind the whole scene (when reversed, it's arguably the comic highlight of a show that's already pretty solid in the laughs department), and then adds herself in, in a more tender way. There's also an act-ending karaoke bar rendition of "I've Got You Babe" between Jack and Caroline—highlighted by Stewart and Haslam's longstanding stage relationships—has the pair bantering about nothing, and in doing so, telling us everything. **V**

UNTIL SUN, DEC 13 (8 PM)
POSTER BOYS
WRITTEN BY MICHELE RIML
DIRECTED BY BRADLEY MOSS
STARRING DAVINA STEWART, FRANK ZOTTER,
JEFF HASLAM, JESSE GERVAIS
THEATRE NETWORK (10708 - 124 ST)
\$23 - \$27

REVUE // GOODNIGHT DESDEMONA (GOOD MORNING JULIET)

Fooling the bard

Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet) explores Shakespeare and gender theory in an astute, enjoyable way

FAWNDA MITCHELL
// FAWNDA@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Let's start by saying that Studio Theatre's production of *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* offered one of the most enjoyable evenings I've had in a theatre seat so far this season. Ann-Marie MacDonald's award-winning script is downright brilliant, and the BFA cast assembled here by director Marianne Copithorne is astute, comedically well-timed and a great pleasure to watch.

As the adorably hopeless Constance Ledbelly, Tatyana Rac leads the show through the world of Queens University, then to Shakespeare's Cyprus and Verona—all in hopes of proving her unorthodox theory that the Bard's *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* were originally written as comedies by an unknown author. All the ingredients for comedy are embedded in the plays, Constance says, save for a wise fool that could impart the necessary information to prevent the downfalls of the tragic characters: this fool would tell *Othello* that Iago is a lying cad, thus saving *Desdemona's* life and *Othello* a lot of heartbreak, and later the same fool could help by letting Tybalt know that *Romeo* has married Juliet, preempting the bloody chain of events that traditionally follow the big fight in *R & J's* Act 2.

Despite her character's mousy persona—Constance is even caught nibbling a brick of cheese in her opening monologue—Rac has a powerful, unassuming stage presence. Particularly in the opening scenes as she clumsily introduces her thesis, Rac embodies the awkward academic with such innocence and charm that it's all too easy to root for Constance on her quest for the identity of the fool (which would ultimately reveal the identity of the unknown author as well).

It's pretty clear by the time she reaches Cyprus that the identity she's really searching for is her own, and through Shakespeare's now surviving heroines, Constance is allowed to question her own values and, in particular, her own femininity.

MacDonald's themes explore the cusp of the late '80s feminist movements, taking on queer theory and gender-switching in *Romeo and Juliet's* world, as well as baiting the "I Am Woman, Hear Me Roar" convention in *Desdemona's* Amazon-like character, portrayed in a powerhouse, chest-beating performance by Sarah Sharkey. Constance even tries to excuse her meek persona as that of typically

fragile academic, explaining that she's not exactly a feminist: "I shave my legs and get shy in a crowd."

As the pair of horny star-crossed teenagers, Robert Markus and Karyn Mott are a hilarious *Romeo and Juliet*—they fight over Constance's affections just as much as they quarrel over their pet turtle, Hector, while a fetching, quick-footed Darren Paul, who first appears as *Othello*, returns in Act 2 as the nimble Tybalt.

Though there's a fun dance break and saucy performance as Mercutio by Andréa Jowarsky (who also plays the Chorus), I still don't understand why any contemporary mention of *Romeo and Juliet* has to hark back to Baz Luhrman's film version of the play—admittedly, it's hard to make anything about such a storied tale seem unique, but using the same soundtrack and costume scheme as the film in the masked-ball scene somewhat detracted from the novel genius of the script.

What's most fun about the whole shebang, especially for English Lit geeks, is that the entire show reads like a game of clever wordplay on overkill: once Constance enters Shakespeare's worlds everyone starts speaking in blank verse and punning on words like "foolscap"—the best instance of this is when Constance dreams of her Jack-in-the-box coming to life in Verona's graveyard. The Chorus takes on the part of a spooky, riddling Jester to reveal to Constance who the wise fool really is, though Constance is a little too confused to get the joke, one that she's actually unintentionally playing on herself.

MacDonald points out how silly academia can feel sometimes, particularly when the biggest concern is trying to debunk the mysteries of characters that are so historically well-known, with less focus on determining one's own identity. In the end, Constance realizes that it's better to continue questioning. "If you're lucky, you'll always feel somewhat confused," she admits, knowing that only through her own twisting logic and excessive, post-modern pondering is she able to gain some sense of herself. **V**

UNTIL SAT, DEC 5 (7:30 PM)
GOODNIGHT DESDEMONA (GOOD MORNING JULIET)
WRITTEN BY ANN-MARIE MACDONALD
DIRECTED BY MARIANNE COPITHORNE
STARRING TATYANA RAC, SARAH SHARKEY,
KARYN MOTT
TIMMS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS (87 AVE - T12 ST)
\$10 - \$20

Grimm with a twist

Alberta Opera takes a new angle on *Hansel and Gretel*

FAWNSA MITHRUSH

When the Brothers' Grimm tale of *Hansel and Gretel* comes to mind, you might think of two gluttonous little siblings ravenously mowing their way through a candy-coated maze of gingerbread to their near demise.

What's different about Alberta Opera's new take on the well-known cautionary tale is that the children come from a rather impoverished situation in the first place. Unlike the classical versions, where Hansel and Gretel are lured into the forest by an evil step-mother, this time they venture out on their own accord.

"They're two poor children who live with their poor father in their poor home," explains Alberta Opera Artistic Director Farren Timoteo, who collaborated on the original musical theatre production with Musical Director Jeff Unger. "Hansel (Jason Hardwick) is the younger of the two. He's a kind of spunky go-getter and has a wild imagination, he dreams of a much more exciting life outside of the forest. Gretel (played by Robyn Wallis) is a bit more meek—she's the older sister. She's mature and intelligent, but she can't help but feeling the same sentiments as her younger brother, that perhaps there is



AND YOU WILL KNOW US BY THE TRAIL OF BREADCRUMBS >> Hansel and Gretel venture into the woods // Ian Jackson/EPIC Photography

something out there. But she is more keen on keeping the family together."

Of course, both children end up getting lost in Hansel's wild adventures. As everyone knows, they follow a trail of tempting treats—candy or breadcrumbs or what have you—and eventu-

ally find themselves stuck in a witch's gingerbread house, unwittingly soon to be boiled into kiddie stew.

As gross and dark as the idea may be, Timoteo and Unger are no strangers to morphing fairy tales into something

palatable for contemporary kids. Last year, their production of *Little Red Riding Hood* swept up two Sterling Awards in categories catering to young audiences.

"Sometimes the source material can be a bit morbid and dark," Timoteo admits, "A lot of the time we find that it's dark

on a level you can sort of skirt around and go in another direction with. These tales have been incredibly relevant, and that level of darkness may have been a necessity in its day to impart themes and morals that for a contemporary young audience are a bit different. We do still try to keep the stakes really high, we keep the witch creepy instead of too friendly or colourful, because a great villain goes a long way in terms of making the play more interesting," he points out.

"The message that we wanted to impart with this one was of family," Timoteo explains. "While Hansel thinks because they're impoverished that getting away from home and finding something more exciting will be much more satisfying, at one point Hansel and Gretel also get separated, and once they do, they realize that the most important thing is being together." V

FRI, DEC 4 – SUN, DEC 13

HANSEL AND GRETEL

ADAPTED & DIRECTED BY FARREN TIMOTEO

SCORE BY JEFF UNGER

STARRING JASON HARDWICK, ROBYN WALLIS

MATT VAN BOEYEN

VARSCONA THEATRE (10329-83 AVE.) \$12

FREE ADMISSION FOR ADULTS ACCOMPANIED BY CHILDREN UNDER 12

PREVUE // A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Ten years of humbug

And Alison Wells has yet to miss a single *Christmas Carol*

FAWNSA MITHRUSH

After 10 years and over 300 performances in the Citadel's annual production *A Christmas Carol*, Alison Wells admits she's seen all sides of the holiday, onstage and off.

"I've often threatened that I will write the *Christmas Carol* chronicles," she teases. "I would actually not have it published until after I'd died, because I would be sued for every penny I have."

The good-natured 63-year-old actress is the only cast member of Bob Baker's seasonal production who has never missed a single show in its decade-long history—as Scrooge, Tom Wood has been in it just as long, she notes, but John Wright has recently started taking up the character for a couple of weekly performances. Wells' nightly routine in the show is rather busy: in the first act she plays Mrs. Blum, who collects donations for the poor, and later you can hear her in voiceover as the adorably fuzzy ghost of Christmas Past—she also hosts the best Christmas party in town as Mrs. Fezziwig.

The rehearsal process for the show is also a bit of a break for stalwarts like her, who return to the same roles in the production year after year.



WE WISH YOU A MERRY HUMBUG

>> This year marks a decade of *Christmas Carol* at the Citadel // Supplied

"It's so nice every year not to have to learn your lines," she says. "I dream these lines all year long. I can't get away from them. People say any line to me, and I think I can probably quote the whole play now, but I instantly respond with whatever the next cue is."

What keeps it from getting old, she says, is the opportunity to hone the show with each new season.

"As an actor, two months after you've done a show you always say, 'Oh, I should have done that!' And you get the chance every year to invest those new things in. I think the show gets better every year because (director Bob Baker) keeps demanding that we keep it fresh and alive, that we invest our hearts and souls. There's never any moment where

anybody just walks through. Every year we make new discoveries."

A self-professed "Christmas junkie," Wells explains that the cast truly works to embody the true meaning of the holiday. At the end of each show, the actors collect cash and food donations for the Edmonton Food Bank—over the years theatre-goers have offered upwards of \$395 000 in donations.

"It's wonderful to stand out there and greet people, their faces and hearts are so open, they just give whatever they can. It can be good cheer, but there have been people that have dropped \$100 into the kids' buckets. Your heart just opens up," she says. "We're not just doing this great show that we all love and that audiences say is beautiful, we're actually doing some good for the people that we talk about in the show, the hungry and the poor, and that makes you feel good." V

THU, NOV 27 – WED, DEC 23 (7:30 PM)

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

ADAPTED BY TOM WOOD

DIRECTED BY BOB BAKER

CITADEL THEATRE (9828-101A AVE.)

\$65 – \$40

PREVUE // ADVENT ADVENTURES

Christmas Countdown

Artists take to the Holy Trinity Church for three weekends of festive performance

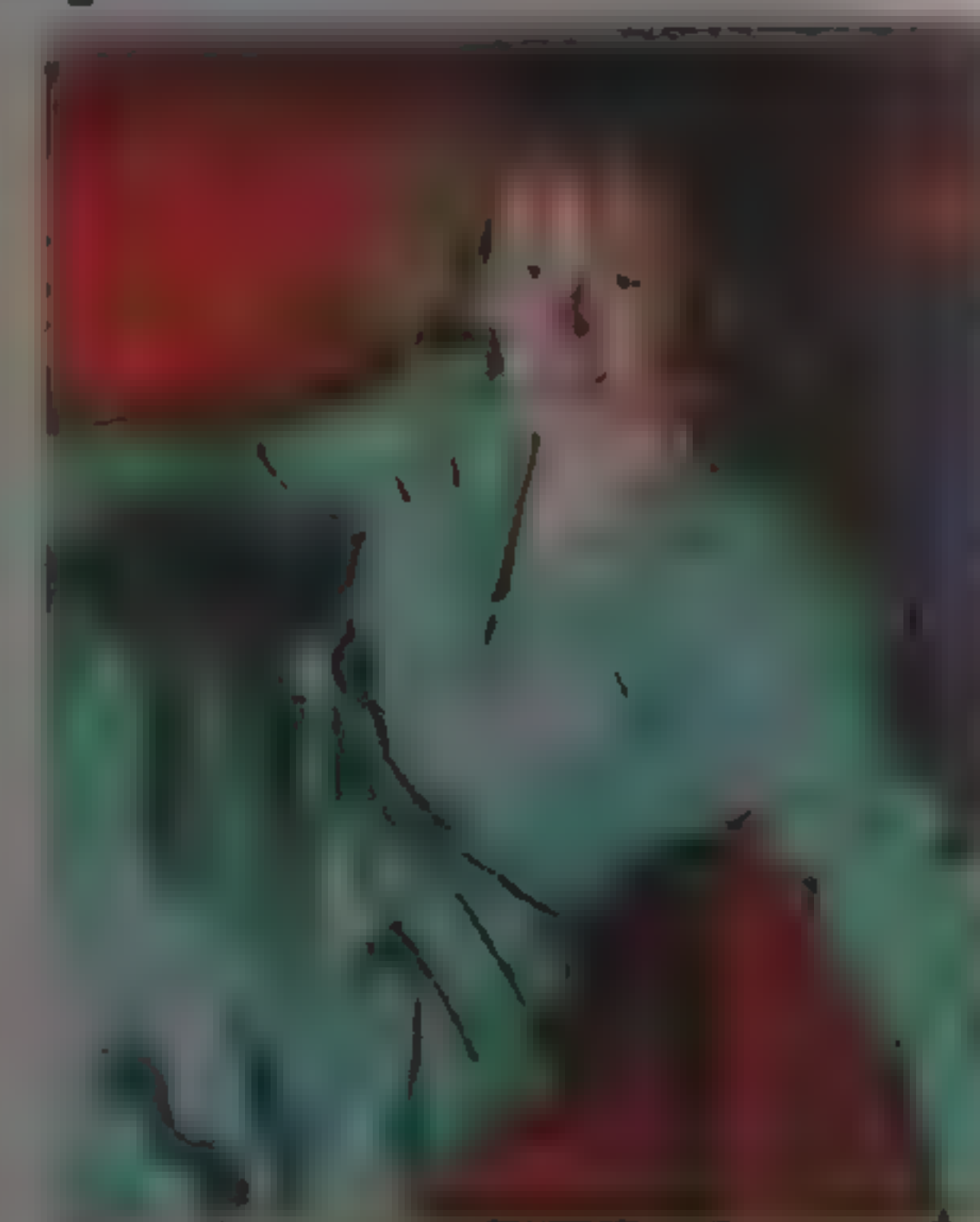
PAUL BLINOV

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID BELKE

In recent years, David Belke's found himself enjoying a blessed relationship with the Holy Trinity Church: they've been happily hosting his fringe shows for a few years, and he seems just as content to keep putting them up there: given the built-in acoustics, atmosphere and theatre-style seating, churches are already halfway to being ideal performance venues, after all.

The church, certainly, is aware of this: they've been looking for ways to bring more artists in to use their space, and given his usual summertime involvement, Belke was more than willing to help spread the word.

"They're very enthusiastic supporters of the arts over there, and just terrific people, terrific hosts," he says. "But this summer they mentioned they really wanted to get the word out there that they were a space that was available for artists of all stripes—you know, actors, performing artists, or musicians or poets or whatever. They said they really wanted to let people know that they were willing to be a venue for arts related activities. So I

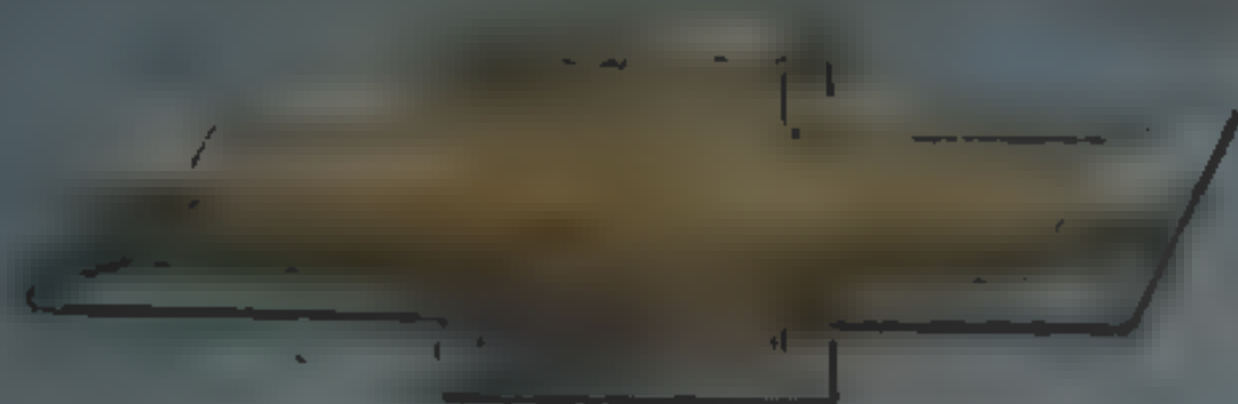


ANDREA HOUSE >> Just one of many performers appearing at the Holy Trinity Church over three weekends // Supplied

said well, probably the best way to do that is to demonstrate that."

To do so, Belke's gathered a sampling of Edmonton artists to fill Holy Trinity's pews for three consecutive weekends in the *Advent Adventures* series, a way "to let people know that here's a group of people in a beautiful building

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32 >>



CHEVROLET

NEW TOY NEW JOY EVENT

\$3,350 IN CASH CREDIT **\$1,000** HOLIDAY BONUS

2009 CHEVROLET COBALT LT

\$4,350

INCLUDES \$1,000 HOLIDAY BONUS!

CASH CREDIT



INCLUDES • 155hp Ecotec® 2.2L 4-Cylinder Engine • Air Conditioning • 5-Speed Manual Transmission • Power Windows, Locks, and Mirrors • AM/FM/CD Player with MP3 Playback Including iPod® Input Jack • Remote Keyless Entry • 60/40 Split Folding Rear Seats • 1SM Model

HWY: 5.8L/100KM - 49MPG
CITY: 8.4L/100KM - 34MPG



2009 CHEVROLET MALIBU LS

\$3,500

CASH CREDIT

INCLUDES \$1,000 HOLIDAY BONUS

INCLUDES • 169hp 2.4L VVT Ecotec Engine • 17" Wheels • 6 Standard Airbags • 4 Wheel Disc Brake with ABS and StabiliTrak Electronic Stability Control • OnStar® • Air, Tilt/Telescopic Steering Wheel and Cruise Control • Power Windows and Locks with Remote Keyless Entry • 1SM Model

HWY: 6.5L/100KM - 43MPG
CITY: 9.5L/100KM - 30MPG

★★★★★
FIVE-STAR
SAFETY RATING

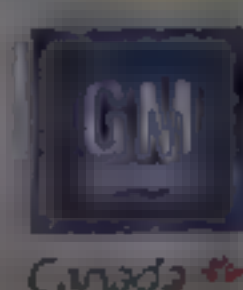
albertachevrolet.com

CANADIAN
PRICING
ADVANTAGE

IT PAYS TO SHOP
IN CANADA.

60 DAY SATISFACTION GUARANTEE**

CALL YOUR ALBERTA CHEVROLET DEALER TODAY.



THE BEST COVERAGE IN CANADA
5 YEARS
160,000 KM

POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY
• ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
• COURTESY TRANSPORTATION



GM pays the first
2 yrs



THEATRE NETWORK ~ *live at the* ROXY PRESENTS

POSTER BOYS

BY **MICHELE RIML**

"Riml's drama is smart, refreshing and somehow timeless."

— The Globe and Mail

Starring:

JESSE GERVAIS
JEFF HASLAM
DAYINA STEWART
FRANK ZOTTER

Director: **Bradley Moss**

Set & Costume Designer: **Lisa Hancharek**

Lighting Designer: **Scott Peters**

Sound Designer: **Dave Clarke**

Media Designer: **Ian Jackson**

Stage Manager: **Amy Kucharuk**

NOVEMBER 24
DECEMBER 13

2 for 1 Tuesdays
Dec 1 & 8

Y Theatre 10708 124th Street

714-453-3440

theatrenetwork.ca

Photo by Ian Jackson / EPIC



Dogmatic suspicions

Lee Henderson's exhibition complicates the idea of authenticity and buddhism, but lacks an entry point

AMY FUNG

Investigating the arbitrary boundaries surrounding authenticity, specifically in relation to the practice of Buddhism, Lee Henderson's photo-based exhibition, *when you have not been there, your heart is full of longing* poses notions of permanence and impermanence for viewers to deliberate.

Raised atheist, Henderson developed an interest in Taoism in high school, then the swordsmanship of Kendo, eventually even teaching Tai Chi, but does not consider himself a practicing Buddhist.

"Being Buddhist or not comes up a lot, but I'm more interested in troubling that idea. When people ask me and I answer, 'Yes,' these works and research are permitted, but if I answer 'No,' then it's problematic," Henderson explains, who was in town for last week's opening and artist talk.

"My most honest answer is that 'I don't know.' I like what [performance artist] Laurie Anderson says, that she's a 'Committed Beginner of Buddhism.'"

Committed to researching the boundaries between thought and culture, but suspicious of dogma, Henderson has been negotiating this cultural baggage that includes a former teacher telling him flat out that he'll never understand Buddhism because he's not Asian.

"Where are those boundaries?" Henderson asks, as concepts of authenticity are challenged in an increasingly globalized world where thoughts transfer fluidly and instantaneously.

Having exhibited this show at the Chicago Art Fair in 2008 and again at the Art Gallery of Regina in 2009, Henderson constructs paired perspectives hinged on notions of containment and infection. In the majority of works entitled "The Impact of Hyphenation in Wasps," a single wasp (playing off the White Anglo-



META, PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES >> Lee Henderson's "Transmission" works keep Buddha under wraps // Supplied

Saxon Protestant acronym) is surgically pinned to a Buddha figure with an acupuncture needle. Blown up to a poster size, or more specifically, an arrivals/departure screen size, these WASP prints are paired with a series of "Transmission" works, of Buddha figurines wrapped in a yellow condom, a visual and physical barrier that Henderson also describes as "protective of its insemination from spreading/protecting of the wasps." Playing off notions of acceptance or rejection, Henderson presents the wasp and the kitschy buddha figurine as two symbols engaging in shared notions.

Receiving his BFA from ACAD and his MFA from the University of Regina with a specialization in Intermedia, Henderson has been building on a body of work that fixates on the Buddha symbol as the center of his ongoing investigation in impermanence and metaphysicality. The exhibition as a whole stands visually polished,

but there is something lacking as an entry point in basing its foundation on such static symbols of authenticity, despite his artistic intention to problematize such concepts.

While these works are identified, somewhat as self-portraits, Henderson remains elusive as to which components in the image he relates with, as he does not identify with Buddhism, but he also does not identify with being a WASP. Being able to straddle both worlds without committing to either, there are certainly intriguing questions to be asked from an artistic point of view, but the exhibition as a whole feels swallowed in a theoretical framework that has not realized itself in praxis. **V**

UNTIL FRI, DEC 18

WHEN YOU HAVE NOT BEEN THERE, YOUR HEART IS FULL OF LONGING (REDUX)

WORKS BY LEE HENDERSON

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY

(10037 - 24 AVE), 58 - 515

Megatunes

Your Music Destination

TOP 20 FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2009

1. Rosanne Cash - The List (emi)
2. Karla Anderson - Brand New Day (indelible)
3. Blue Rodeo - The Things We Left Behind (warner)
4. Tom Waits - Glitter & Doom Live (anti)
5. Harry Manx - Bread & Buddha (dog my cat)
6. Los Cenzontles with David Hidalgo & Taj Mahal - American Horizon (los cenzontles)
7. Carolyn Mark & NQ Arbuckle - Let's Just Stay Here (mint)
8. Lyle Lovett - Natural Forces (lost highway)
9. Them Crooked Vultures - S/T (interscope)
10. The Flaming Lips - Embryonic (warner)
11. Levon Helm - Electric Dirt (dirt farmer)
12. The Swell Season - Strict Joy (anti)
13. John Wort Hannam - Queen's Hotel (black hen)
14. Colin James - Rooftops & Satellites (maple)
15. Maria Muldaur - The Garden Of Joy -
16. The Heavy - The House That Dirt Built (counter)
17. Monsters Of Folk - S/T (shangrila)
18. Corb Lund - Losin' Lately Gambler (new west)
19. Sam Baker - Cotton (music road)
20. Dan Mangan - Nice, Nice, Very Nice (furm)

ON SALE NOW!



DAPTONE GOLD

A 23 track compilation featuring rarities, classics and previously unreleased tracks from Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings, The Budos Band, Binky Griptite, Lee Fields, Antibalas and more. Vinyl release is a double LP packaged in a deluxe gold foil gatefold jacket with extensive liner notes, and will include a poster, sticker and .mp3 download card. CD release is a deluxe gold foil digipak with 6 page booklet including extensive liner notes and photos.

10355 Whyte Ave. Shop online at megatunes.com 434-6342

ADVENT ADVENTURES

<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

in a great neighbourhood, and they're actively looking for people to come and play with them." After all, Belke notes, "Right now, Edmonton is really suffering from a shortage of performance spaces."

Drawing on the seasonal spirit for inspiration—"what could be more appropriate [than] doing something for Christmas at a church?" he notes—each weekend features a completely different show style: up first is *Held Upon the Earth* a cabaret/musical revue spearheaded by local favourite Andrea House, tackling her original compositions and holiday standards alike. She's pulled in plenty of extra musical muscle to round out the evening: other performers include the

multi-faceted Dana Wylie and Shadow Theatre mainstay Coralie Cairns, who will be reading the works of local author/philosopher Steven Berg.

One week later comes *Niles' Journey: A Baby Camel's Story*, a hand and rod puppet show by Zu-Ma Productions, who've been doing family-friendly puppet shows for a few years. They came up with the show concept—it's a tale of a camel's quest for courage after his mother departs—but asked Belke to pen the script. (They also gave him a cameo, as the voice of the "wise old elephant.")

Belke's own contribution, on the final weekend, is a radio play: It's called *A Goodness to Honest Christmas*, about a festive young girl's tribulations after getting hired as a department store elf. The live radio play format is one he's been itching to get back to after dipping in at the 2008 Fringe with a serialized

radio drama (*The Adventurous Times of Kevin Grimes*), and seems ideal for a church: no expansive set, minimal props, just the audience, atmosphere and imagination.

"There's a freedom in radio theatre that's usually only available in short story or novel writing," Belke says. "You can literally change the setting in a second, you can move anywhere the imagination takes you, you can bring anything the imagination can conceive into the story and on stage, because it's all there in the audience's imagination. It's really quite marvelous." **V**

FRI, DEC 4, SAT, DEC 5

FRI, DEC 11, SAT, DEC 12

FRI, DEC 18, SAT, DEC 19 (7:30 PM)

ADVENT ADVENTURES

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

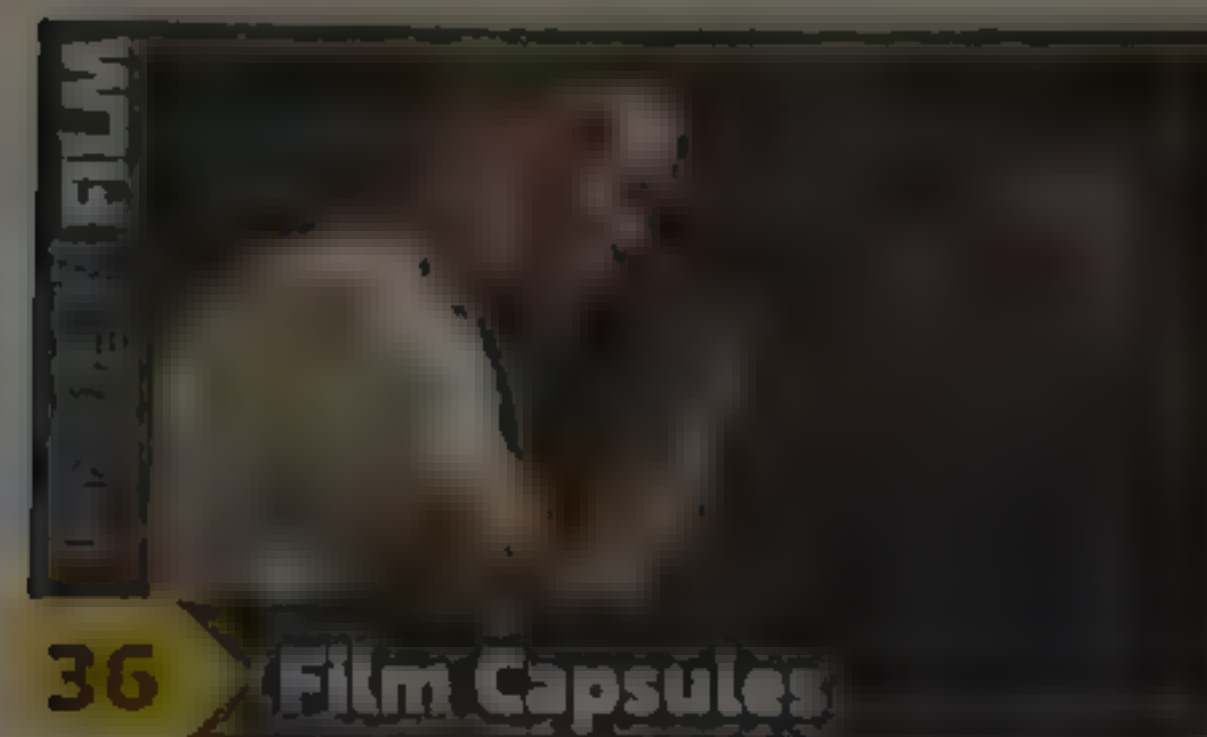
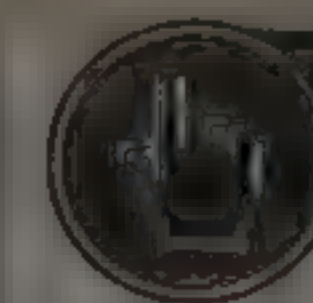
(10037 - 24 AVE), 58 - 515

OTO
GO

THE SEASON.CA
TO LINK TO EDMONTON'S

MOST
COMPREHENSIVE
LISTINGS OF
ARTS
EVENTS

ARTS // 33



Best of the 2000s?

by Josef Braun and Brian Gibson

Two of Vue's intrepid film critics look at some of the best debuts of the last decade

FILM // THE BICYCLE THIEVES

Poverty on two wheels

Bicycle Thieves' neorealism is influential and important, even if the plot strains to make its point

JOSEF BRAUN

By 1948 the war was already three years gone, yet Italy stills looks exhausted—back then, as today, the process of recovery could seem endless. Life went on, grudgingly, chaotically. So in some tattered, flaking, sun-beaten suburb, Antonio Ricci (Lamberto Maggiorani) emerges from a mass of jobless men to accept employment pasting up posters of Rita Hayworth. Any work's to be envied, regardless of how menial, and his peers are far from congratulatory, especially since they all know Antonio doesn't possess the one item required for the gig: a bicycle. But Antonio rushes off to find his wife Maria (Lianella Carrell), who solves the problem easily enough. She sells their bedclothes. We can sleep without them, she says. The money the sheets gain from the pawnbroker is just enough to get Antonio's old Fides out of hock.

Antonio's new career however is short-lived. His Fides is stolen. We were waiting for this, of course, the pay-off on the title. But the pay-off isn't complete until Antonio and his son Bruno (Enzo Staiola), a shoeshine boy, have scoured the city streets in search of the thief, and finally, out of pure desperation, Antonio himself becomes a thief. This is the most persuasive point of the movie, that we are all potential bicycle thieves, subordinate to the vagaries of money, opportunity, and luck.



IT WAS HERE A SECOND AGO >> A father and son search for *Bicycle Thieves* // Supplied

Antonio's story is famously simple: guy loses bike, guy tries to get bike back. Yet the story of *Bicycle Thieves* lies not just in Antonio's actions but in the faces, gestures and voices of everyone he encounters, crowds of mostly ordinary, equally struggling people who collectively alternate between moments of solidarity and mercenary measures. The movie starts with Antonio emerging from a crowd and by its end he'll vanish into the crowd once more.

One of my favourite things about *Bicycle Thieves* is its ambiguity as to whether that crowd is meant to offer any consolation.

Vittorio De Sica directed several films that would become central to the movement known as Italian neo-realism, *Bicycle Thieves* chief among them. It was shot mostly in real locations, mostly under natural light, with non-professional actors—though their performances are

certainly theatrical, you might say very "Italian," nonetheless. The movie spoke of banality, drudgery, fleeting pleasures and simple tasks, yet there's much diversion, and there's tremendous visual poetry in Carlo Montuori's fluid camerawork, the images of bikes and ladders flooding the streets, the busy market place, the chorus of street-sweepers, and in an especially memorable scene, men running to take shelter from a downpour while carrying gramophones. De Sica finds beauty in hard times. Some viewers grumble about the aestheticization of poverty, but I'm more concerned with the romanticization of naïveté. I hope I've made it clear—should it need repeating—that *Bicycle Thieves* is of monumental historical importance and is a pretty great movie. The resigned finale especially is terribly moving. But it's also a movie that strains a bit for my taste. It's tough to make a fully fleshed-out story when the story's trying so hard to make a point. It's noble to speak for those who have no voice, but it's precarious too.

It's instructive to compare *Bicycle Thieves* not only to, say, the work of Roberto Rossellini, that other great, far harsher Italian neo-realist most famous for *Rome: Open City* (1945), but also to other movies with similar themes and tactics. Luis Buñuel's *Los Olvidados* ('50) depicted impoverished kids in Mexico City, but it eschewed the sentimental, embracing petty cruelties and perversion, imbuing characters with greater specificity and greater possibil-

ity. Charles Burnett has paid tribute to *Bicycle Thieves* as a formative influence, but Burnett's *Killer of Sheep* ('77) portrays the plight of Los Angeles' downtrodden with far more idiosyncrasy, humour, and personal vision. The Dardenne Brothers, in movies like *L'Enfant* ('05), revitalized neo-realism's task-oriented narrative structures through a distinctly dogged, rivetingly relentless mise en scene. Most recently, Kelly Reichardt's *Wendy and Lucy* ('08) used the premise of a girl's search for a lost dog—a premise superficially similar to De Sica's *Umberto D.* ('52)—to comment on the status of the non-upwardly mobile or economically disadvantaged in contemporary America. While actually watching *Wendy and Lucy* I was completely immersed in Wendy's personal immediate story—its commentary on the larger social issues started to sink in only later on. By contrast, while watching *Bicycle Thieves*, for all of its marvels, I could rarely forget that the movie was building a thesis. **V**

FRI, DEC 4, SUN, DEC 6, TUE, DEC 8 (7 PM)
SAT, DEC 5, MON, DEC 7 (9 PM)
BICYCLE THIEVES
DIRECTED BY VITTORIO DE SICA
WRITTEN BY CESARE ZAVATTINI ET AL.
STARRING LAMBERTO MAGGIORANI, ENZO STAIOLA, LIANELLE CARRELL
METRO CINEMA (6500, 1014 AVE)
★★★★☆

DVD DETECTIVE >> MUMBLECORE

What'd you say?

Mumblecore's natural, evocative style of filmmaking could be onto something

American independent cinema, especially in these days of relatively cheap digital media, is too varied and disparate a thing to ever have an overarching trend, but one strong movement that's emerged of late has been *mumblecore*, a poorly named but nevertheless important reaction to some of Hollywood's excesses. Few filmmakers willingly call them as such, and it's really more of a style or feel than a philosophy of filmmaking, but there's nevertheless a group of films that share the aesthetic and general themes: there's the natural, improvised dialogue that gives it its name, but also a preoccupation with very specific interpersonal relationships, a handheld, documentary-style camera and a general lack of artifice to the whole proceedings.

Lynn Shelton made one of the standouts of the genre with *Humpday*, about two

heterosexual male friends who set out to make a gay porn, a witty and very down-to-earth film that deconstructed male friendships in the funniest, breeziest way possible (and which also had a criminally short run in Edmonton). Thanks to the popularity of that particular film, one of her earlier works, *My Effortless Brilliance*, is now out, and it's an interesting study in just the kind of tightrope this style demands walking.

My Effortless Brilliance is the story of a somewhat pompous writer, Eric (Sean Nelson), and his frayed relationship with an old friend, Dylan (Basil Harris). It's quite similar territory to *Humpday*, at least thematically—though its rustic setting also recalls another better minimal film about male relationships made by a female director, Kelly Reichardt's *Old Joy*—and though *Brilliance* isn't nearly as deep and success-

ful, Shelton still puts together a very naturalistic exploration of friendship.

The main problem is that only one half of our equation is fleshed out. Eric is a ridiculous man, obviously with some level of talent, but who has mostly used it to get away with acting like an ass to those close to him: the first scene is Dylan telling him as much, an abrupt brush-off that comes after a day of Eric mostly just looking at various writing utensils and conducting fake interviews with himself. A few years later, Eric is in the neighbourhood of Dylan's new, rustic digs, and decides to look him up and try to reconnect. Once that starts, there are some choice moments, including a brief discussion between Dylan and his neighbour about the desire to hit someone with an axe, but it suffers for the fact that we really don't know much of anything about Dylan. Eric seems an ass, sure, but Dylan is nothing, and so we're left waiting for Eric to act so we can get Dylan's

reaction, which hurts both its natural feel and a sense of momentum or depth.

Shelton would correct that entirely in *Humpday*, and I have to wonder if *Medicine for Melancholy*, also out recently, isn't Barry Jenkins' *My Effortless Brilliance*, a first step towards a natural and evocative style of filmmaking that nevertheless doesn't quite get enough right to totally work. In this case, Jenkins' main stumbling block is how caught up he is in trying to make a larger point: this is a story of two young, black San Franciscans spending a day together after a one-night stand—Micah (*The Daily Show*'s Wyatt Cenac) and 'Jo (Tracey Heggins)—though it's also a film about being a minority in a gentrifying city, and too often the latter overwhelms the former.

It's not that there's anything wrong with making a larger point—if anything, that seems to be the natural evolution of

mumblecore, from fully realized, personal films to fully realized, personal films that also manage to say something deeper, like *Humpday*—it's just that the point is constantly budding into the naturalism, and there are times when it feels like we're listening to pointedly crafted arguments more than the honest chit-chat of two people who barely know each other. Especially that time Micah and Jo rather conveniently happen to walk by a community meeting on gentrification.

Again, though, there are moments: a carefree spin on a carousel, the goofy way Micah checks his face in a mirror, the quiet walking or bike riding. And it needs to be said that it's about time this style got brought of its basically entirely white spectrum. But Jenkins is so obsessed with his points that those quickly give way to more arguments, and it's hard to work up a lot of emotional attachment to the characters, something that's basically essential when everything else is so minimal. If he can find a way to imbue those arguments a bit more realistically into his characters, make it feel more like a natural topic than the big idea, Jenkins could well be onto something special. **V**

• 100 1178Y

The life of Claireece "Precious" Jones



TROUBLED HOMELIFE >> Precious is admirable, but frustrating // *Stacy Lee*

(Gabourey Sidibe), is one for which the adjective unimaginable is not hyperbole. As described above, if you were going to do a satire of hard-life films, you couldn't really improve on the what's here, basically every conceivable ghetto-teen problem rolled into one angry, overweight package. Her mother (Mo'Nique) is a welfare queen without parallel—it should be said that, were not everyone involved with the production of this film black, it would ba-

sically be racist propaganda (there's even a scene where Precious steals some fried chicken)—bellowing orders and insults at Precious from her spot on the couch, cigarette in hand when she's not using it to throw something at her.

Precious will eventually get some help outside the house: a thoughtful teacher (Paula Patton) from her new troubled-youth school, will take a spe-

cial interest, and a no-nonsense social worker (an unrecognizably drab Mariah Carey) will push her to confront her family situation. Here too is the film's weird dichotomy: the former is a cliché-spouting saint, the latter a put-upon but devoted civil servant who seems interested in helping those who help themselves. It's like slipping a *Wire* DVD into a Hallmark card.

But for the weird opposing forces, over-

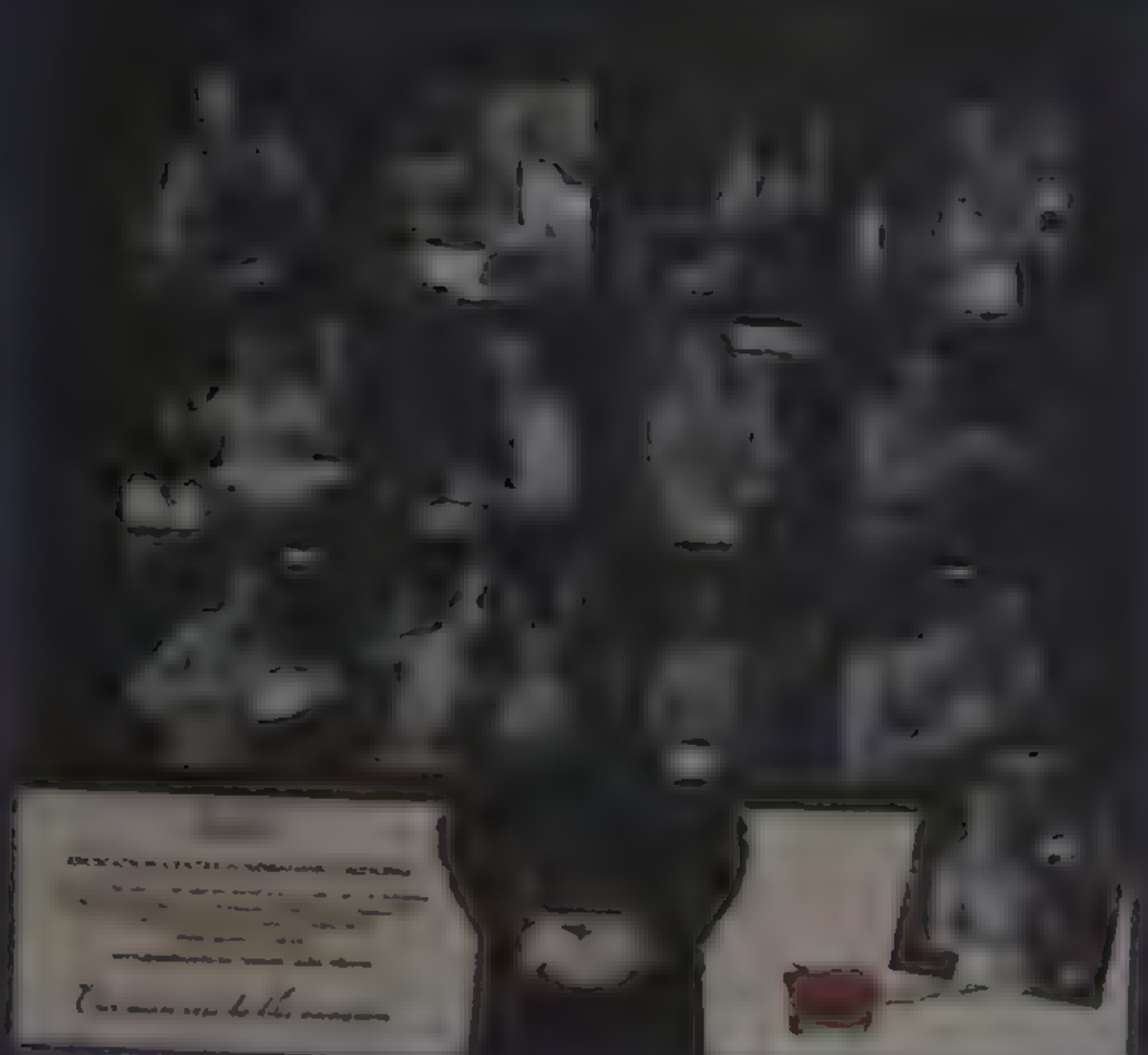
all it works. Sidibe and Mo'Nique give incredibly unselfconscious performances, and give these near-caricatures a grounding that keeps us caring about Precious' slow redemption. And the focus on the distressed child, however hyperbolic, is a welcome shift from the usual focus on the teachers and social workers: whatever else, there's something bold about making us empathize with someone this far away from most of our experience. If anything, the film probably underestimates our ability to do that, hence the relentless parade of terrible that befalls Precious—there's one more bombshell to drop, just when things seem like they're turning around—but still: points for effort. It would be impossible to recommend it without serious reservations, but by its end it does manage to accomplish something touching for all its faults—like its protagonist, really—and there is something noteworthy and admirable in that.

PROFESSION'S FIGHT TO STOP THE PROWL: BUSBY BY

SAPPHIRE

☆☆☆☆☆

Plus wonderful



Featuring delicious recipes and photos of
Grand Grands men in the kitchen
Recreation Centre de Grande Caillie
Community with access to
arena, and a social
friends and

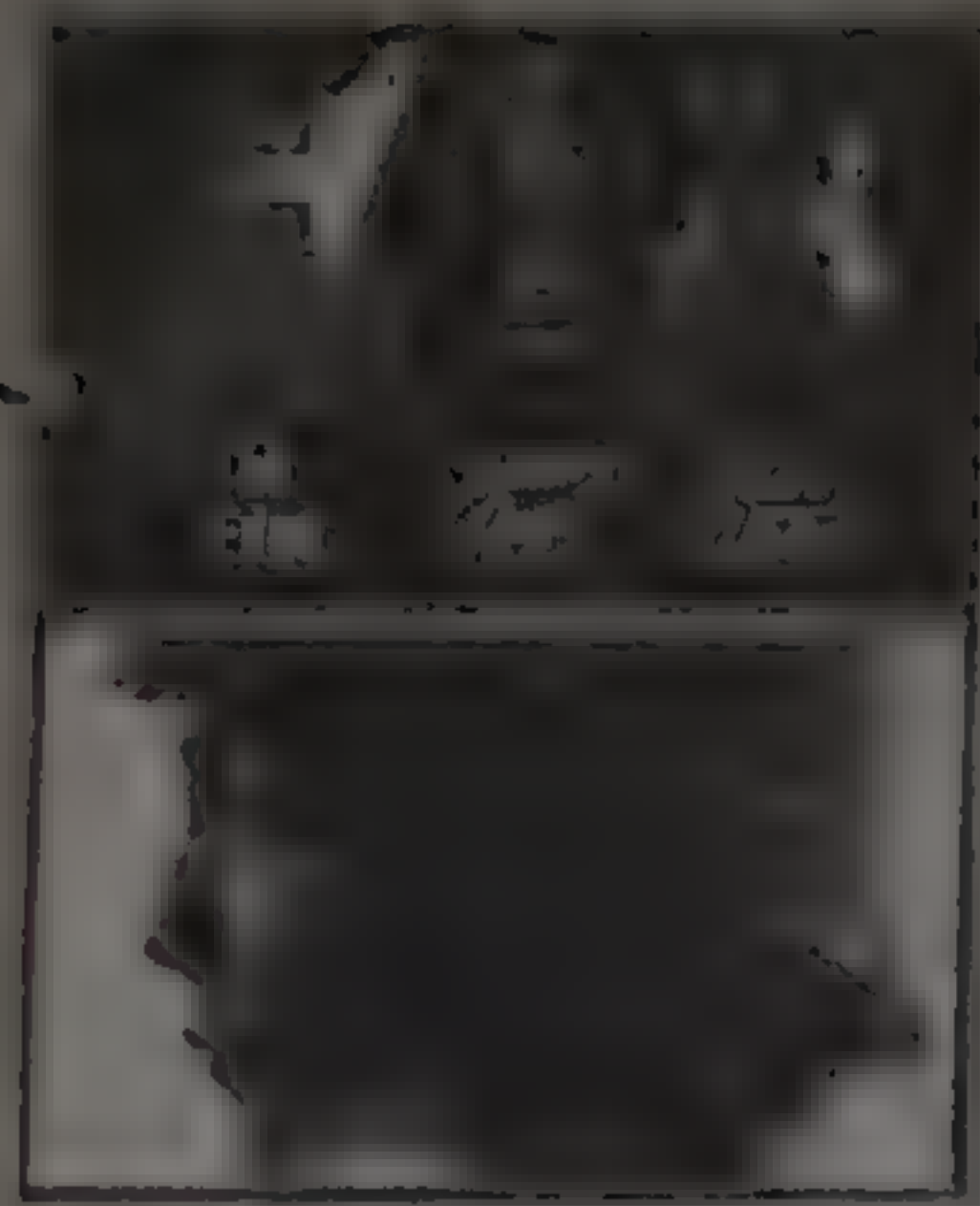
calendarofnakedmen.com

VIEW WEEKLY
presents
The Holiday Guide

The holiday season just began, and it's time to start thinking about the gifts you'll be giving and receiving. What's the best way to shop for the holidays?

This year, we'll be looking at the best ways to shop for the holidays, from the best places to shop to the best ways to shop. We'll also be looking at the best ways to shop for the holidays, from the best places to shop to the best ways to shop.

GOOD HAIR



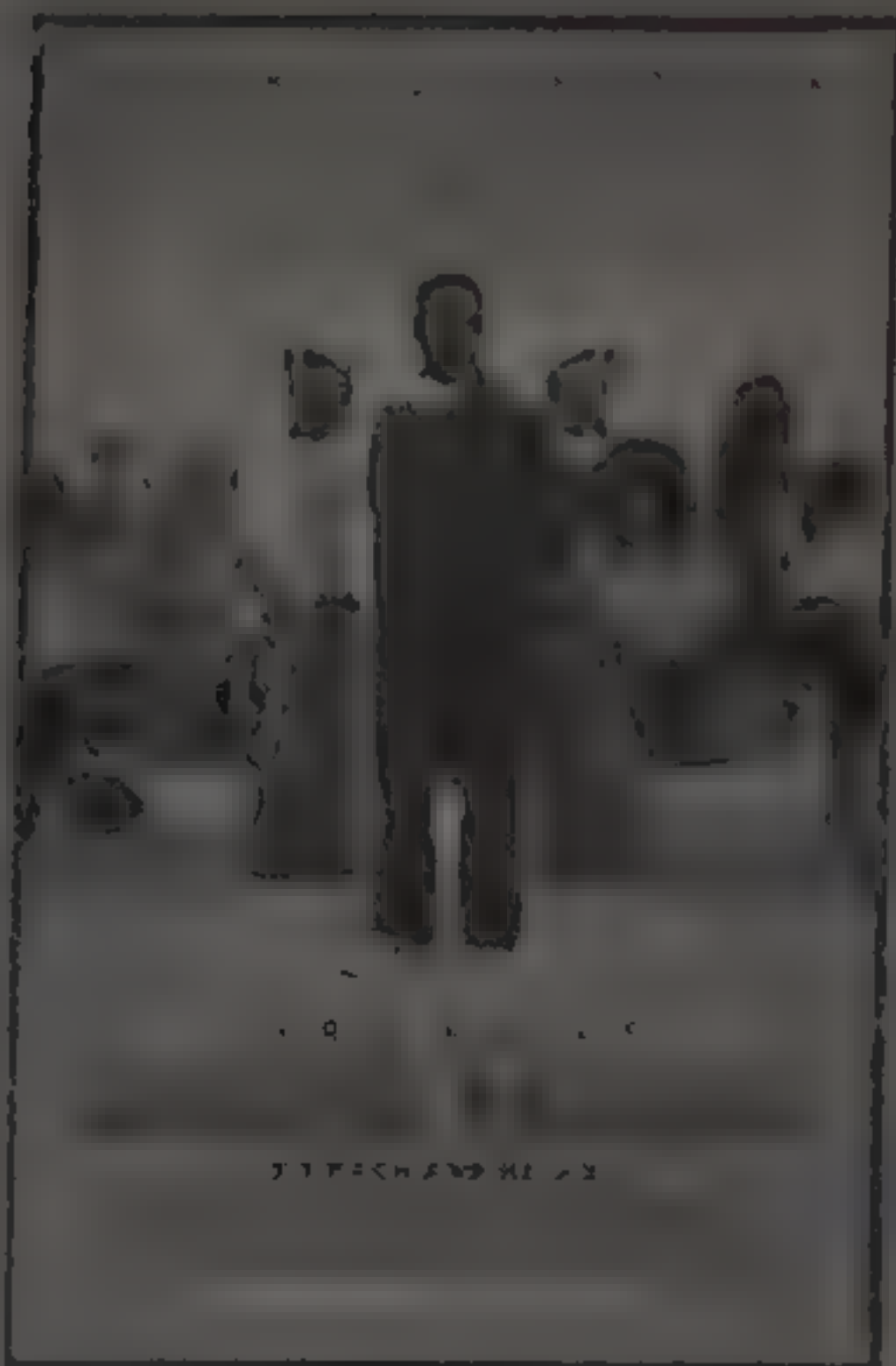
IT MIGHT GET LOUD

NIGHTLY @ 7:00PM
SAT & SUNDAY MATINEES @ 1:00PM

COCO BEFORE CHANEL

NIGHTLY @ 7:00PM
SAT & SUNDAY MATINEES @ 3:00PM

PRINCESS THEATRE



NIGHTLY @ 7:10 and 9:10pm
Saturday & Sunday Matinees @ 2:00pm
Rated: PG coarse language, sexual content

PRINCESS THEATRE

Film Capsules

Now Playing

The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day

Written and directed by Troy Duffy
Starring Sean Patrick Flanery, Norman Reedus and Billy Connolly
★★★★☆

The scene in *Pulp Fiction* when Samuel L. Jackson's character recites Ezekiel 25:17 to a pleading criminal seems to be the inspiration for *The Boondock Saints*, parts one and two. It's not only because the MacManus brothers (Sean Patrick Flanery and Norman Reedus) whisper biblical passages over their victims. The nonlinear anatomy of crime scenes, the embracing of overblown personalities and the acrimonious rapport between the Irish-Catholic versions of Jules and Vincent—it's all

a send-up, but downgrade like burlesque.

The characters lack the wisdom and fantasy of a Tarantino persona, and are much more vaudeville. The witty chit-chat relies heavily on racial jokes and don't-be-a-queer-isms. As for plot, both movies could be summed up with a two-shilling limerick: "Two brothers from Boston, they love the lord, and kill the Mafia when they're bored. The FBI are on their trail, or are they really hoping the brothers prevail?"

The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day gets the theatrical attention the original didn't 10 years ago. It's an interesting case study, part one. Simple word of mouth was enough to give this practically B-movie a shelf life, despite the plot being paper-thin and the characters, caricatures.

For the sequel, writer and director Troy Duffy, who hasn't made a feature movie since the prototype, revives the brothers as if they were zombies. He casts a spell on the vigilantes during their moratorium in Ireland, and then—poof—they've got the urge to splurge guts again. But to give tangible reason, a priest has been killed and his dead body posed with pennies over the eyelids, just like the MacManus brothers' used to do it. Now they return to Boston, guns ablaze.

As thin a story as it is, it unravels almost by free-association. People show up unexplained, motives are vague and its pace feels improvised. When the Italian goons we've come to know as the bad guys are killed off by the good guys, it's as if God reached into the projection room and changed the reel to show us part three. Like, "Here's comedian Bill Connolly to show you something else we've been working on. Check it out."

But there's something that is done damn well by *All Saints Day* and that's the violence. Duffy cooks up Mexican standoffs like a five-star chef, even though he uses the same ingredients. It's cool, it's creative, it's contagious. It's bloody, fast-paced and it pauses for

comedy.

To enjoy *Boondock Saints*, you have to approach it like St. Patty's Day. Sobriety, it's a bunch of obnoxious guys with goatees getting trashed, busting each other's balls, contemplating what gayer and screaming obscenities. But if you allow yourself to tap into your id—your inner Irish—then suddenly, you're on their side. Or maybe it's just Stockholm Syndrome.

OMAR MOVALLEM

11/20/09, 11/20/09

Ninja Assassin

Directed by James McTeigue
Written by Matthew Sand, J. Michael Straczynski
Starring Rain, Naomie Harris, Sho Kosugi

Right from the start—man's head sliced off above his lower jaw—this movie gets a O, as in Type-O. It and every other type of blood is on display here, spattering across the screen as if it's a canvas for a hemophiliac Jackson Pollock. Like porn for vampires, *Ninja Assassin* streams and courses and spurts along, signifying nothing other than the emergency-room fact that people's bodies are fountains of blood waiting to jet.

Sexy Korean pop singer Rain, perhaps cast for his name alone, considering the movie's weather—darkly overcast, with a 100 percent chance of showering body parts—is Raizo, who'd been, along with fellow foundlings, a literally scarred orphan-turned-ninja assassin of the Ozunu Clan. Its home is a temple hidden high in snow-capped mountains, deep in Cliché-Land. Eager young Raizo, angry at the clan's killing of a girl who loved him—probably because she knew he would grow up to be played by sexy, sexy Rain—breaks away from the clan. Soon he's helping Europol "forensics researcher" Mika (Naomie Harris) take down the clan and end its history of assassination.

metro CINEMA

DEC 3-8

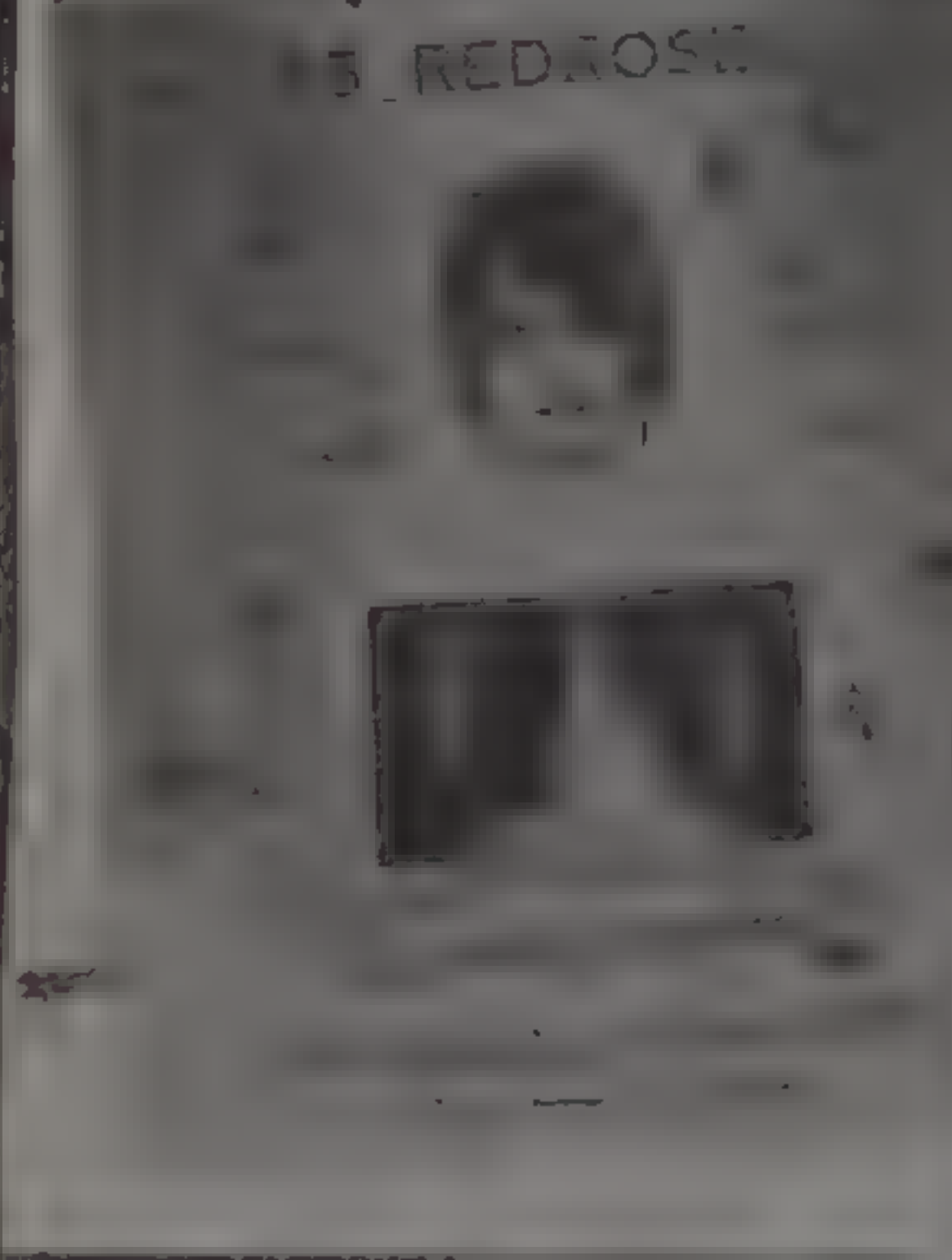
HOT DOGS & GLOBAL VISIONS PRESENTS

65_REDROSES

65_REDROSES

THURSDAY DECEMBER 3 at 7PM

SORRY, NO METRO PASSES



THE VITTORIO DI SICA CLASSIC

THE BICYCLE THIEF

FRIDAY, SUNDAY AND TUESDAY at 7PM
SATURDAY AND MONDAY at 9PM



THE BICYCLE THIEF
A VITTORIO DI SICA FILM

THE MIRROR

DIRECTED BY ANDREI TARKOVSKY

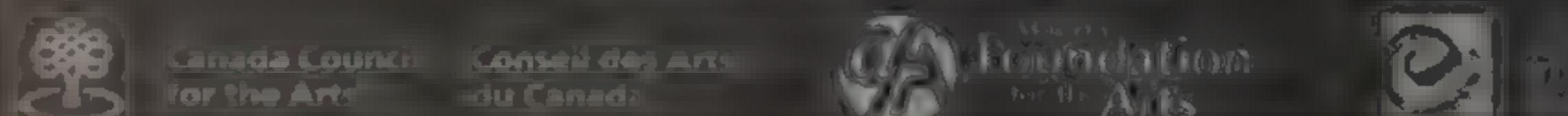
FRIDAY, SUNDAY AND TUESDAY at 9PM

SATURDAY AND MONDAY at 7PM



All Metro screenings are held at Zedler Hall in the Citadel Theatre, 9828-101 Ave.
For more information, call 425-9212, or log on to www.metrocinema.org

Metro operates with the support of:



AN EDUCATION

NIGHTLY @ 7:00PM
SAT & SUNDAY MATINEES @ 2:00PM
RATED: PG MATURE SUBJECT MATTER

THE BIG LEBOWSKI

SATURDAY DEC 4, 7PM ON METRO

GARNEAU THEATRE

8712 109 Street 780 433 0728

SEVERELY NORMAL?
FAVA FRESHWORKS SCREENING

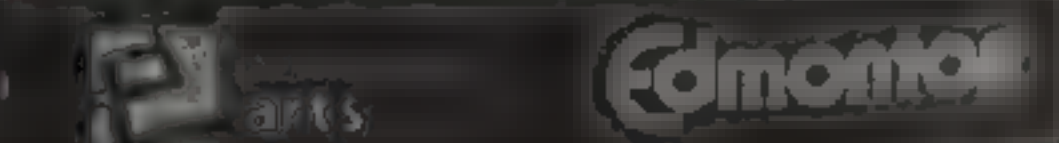
DECEMBER 12, 2009 @ 7PM
METRO CINEMA (9828-101 AVE)
GENERAL \$10, STUDENTS/SENIORS \$8,
FAVA MEMBERS \$8



FILM AND VIDEO ARTS SOCIETY - ALBERTA

9722-102 STREET, EDMONTON
AB T5K 0K4 • 780 429 1671

FAVA.CA



REVIEWS

Movie Capsules

...the going rate has always 50 pounds of gold, ninjas be- enough to avoid tying their ...to the US dollar)

...The Passion of the Christ ...to adorably fetishized a ...sliced upper body. ...produced by the War- ...s, officially drops them to ...spot on the Best Entertainment- ...Brothers List*, and was appar- ...inspired by Rain's martial-arts ...performance in *Speed Racer*. From the ...photo of his glistening, literally ripped ...s, though, it was more likely in- ...pired by profit hunger for his female fan-base.

The movie seeps out like an incred- ...y long-winded music video, if a ...music video offered blood instead of music. The whoosh lines of weapons are digitally added as if we're watch- ing a comic book, except that comic books generally have more developed characters and a more believable plot. The film wants to create tension, but how can it when Raizo loses bucket- fuls of blood without dying or falls off an office tower and survives? And a clan that can kill anyone, floating in and out of shadows like an octopus' ink-fart, can't knock off a shrieking Mika armed with only a gun, but Raizo can carve through them all like a one-Hobbit army versus cardboard Orcs.

The romance here isn't even a ro- mance; it's so chaste. First ninja-girl and later Mika kisses Raizo but he can't awake any non-killing passion. So *Romeo and Juliet* submits to Tri- umph of the Will, the fascist death- cult (the individual's subsumed by the clan; weakness is not allowed) quickly taking over. Violence substitutes for sex, men getting down and dirty so the camera can eye their bloody cli- maxes—in this blood-porn, it's noth- ing but money shots and the effect is, of course, predictable and degrading and quickly boring. There's so much sadism here, you've got to be a real masochist to get through it all.

*After the Lumière, Coen, Maysles, Duplass, Quay, Polish, Kuchar, Farrel- ly, Hughes, Spierig, and Parker broth- ers, but still ahead of the Menendez brothers.

BRIAN GIBSON

Opening Friday

Everybody's Fine

Written and directed by Kirk Jones
 Starring Robert De Niro, Kate Beckins- le, Sam Rockwell, Drew Barrymore
 ★★☆☆☆

Retired after a life of coating cables in PVC, his kids now scattered across the country, his wife's death still a fresh wound, Frank Goode (Robert De Niro) has nothing but time. The prospect of a rare gathering of the surviving clan has him unloading wads of cash on a new barbecue, heaps of filet mignon, and fancy wine he knows nothing about. It's all the more heart-wrenching then when all four of his kids call to cancel at the last minute. Even at this early stage in *Everybody's Fine* events conspire to gut

FILM WEEKLY

FRI, DEC 4 - THU, DEC 17, 2009

CHARA THEATRE/JASPER

6094 Connaught Dr, Jasper, 780 852-749

Closed for renovations to mid December

CINEMA IN THE SUBURBS

Whitlamud Crossing, 4271-106 St, 780 A96-1822

PERSEPOLIS (PG, coarse language, mature themes)
 Sun Dec 6, free

CINEMA CITY MOVIES 12

5074-130 Ave, 780 A72-9779

DE DANA DAN (Hindi W/E.S.T.) (PG)
 Daily 1:10, 4:20, 7:45

KURBAAN (Hindi W/E.S.T.) (14A, gory scenes)
 Fri-Sat 1:05, 4:10, 7:40, 11:00; Sun-Thu 1:05, 4:10, 7:40

SAW VI (18A, gory scenes, brutal violence)
 Fri-Sat 1:50, 4:50, 7:45, 10:00, 12:15; Sun-Thu 1:50, 4:50, 7:45, 10:00

CIRQUE DU FREAK: THE VAMPIRE'S ASSISTANT (PG, not recommended for young children, violence, frightening scenes)
 Fri-Sat 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15, 12:00; Sun-Thu 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15

COUPLES RETREAT (PG, sexual content, not recom- mended for children)
 Fri-Sat 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30, 11:45; Sun-Thu 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30

ZOMBIELAND (18A, gory violence)
 Fri-Sat 1:35, 4:40, 7:25, 9:40, 12:10; Sun-Thu 1:35, 4:40, 7:25, 9:40

THE INVENTION OF LYING (PG, language may of- fend, not recommended for young children)
 Daily 1:10, 4:05, 6:55, 9:35

SURROGATES (14A, violence)
 Fri-Sat 1:40, 4:25, 7:20, 9:35, 11:40; Sun-Thu 1:40, 4:25, 7:20, 9:35

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS (G)
 Fri-Sat 1:25, 4:25, 7:00, 9:10, 11:30; Sun-Thu 1:25, 4:25, 7:00, 9:10

WHITEOUT (14A, not recommended for children, gory scenes, nudity)
 Fri-Sat 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45, 11:50; Sun-Thu 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS (18A, gory violence)
 Fri-Sat 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 11:05; Sun-Thu 1:00, 4:15, 7:30

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE (PG, violence, frightening scenes)
 Fri-Sat 1:20, 4:35, 7:35, 11:10; Sun-Thu 1:20, 4:35, 7:35

CINEPLEX ODEON NORTH

14231-127 Ave, 780 732-2236

ARMORED (14A)
 No passes Daily 12:05, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Fri-Tue, Thu 1:30, 4:30, 7:00, 10:10; Wed 4:30, 7:00, 10:10; Star & Strollers Screening: Wed 1:00

THE ROAD (14A, disturbing content)
 Daily 1:00, 4:00, 7:40, 10:15

OLD DOGS (G)
 Fri-Tue, Thu 12:25, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:45; Wed 1:00, 2:50, 5:00, 7:15, 9:45

NINJA ASSASSIN (18A, gory violence)
 Daily 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:30

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG)
 No passes Daily 1:20, 4:10, 6:25, 8:50

PLANET 51 (G)
 Daily 1:10, 3:50, 6:35, 9:00

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Daily 12:00, 3:00, 6:30, 9:30; Digital Cinema: Daily 12:40, 3:45, 7:30, 10:35

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Daily 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40

PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (14A, coarse language, sexual violence, disturbing content)
 Daily 12:15, 3:20, 6:50, 9:20

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Fri-Sat 11:50, 3:20, 6:45, 10:20; Sun-Thu 1:15, 4:55, 8:00

THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY (18A, language may offend, violence)
 Daily 12:30, 3:30, 7:50, 10:40

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG, frighten- ing scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Digital 3d Daily 12:20, 2:30, 4:45, 7:20, 10:00

CINEPLEX ODEON SOUTH

1525-99 St, 780 A36-8585

ARMORED (14A)
 No passes Fri, Sun-Thu 12:50, 3:40, 7:20, 9:50; Sat 12:50, 3:25, 7:20, 9:50

EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Fri-Wed 12:40, 4:15, 7:25, 10:15; Thu 4:15, 7:25, 10:15; Star

& Strollers Screening: Thu 1:00

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature sub,ect matter)
 Fri-Wed 1:20, 4:00, 7:50, 10:25; Thu 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 10:25

THE ROAD (14A, disturbing content)
 Daily 12:15, 3:15, 7:15, 10:30

OLD DOGS (G)
 Daily 12:35, 3:05, 5:20, 7:45, 10:00

NINJA ASSASSIN (18A, gory violence)
 Daily 1:30, 4:45, 7:40, 10:20

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG)
 No passes Fri-Wed 12:45, 3:10, 5:25, 7:55, 10:15; Thu 3:10, 5:25, 7:55, 10:15; Star & Strollers Screening: Thu 1:00

PLANET 51 (G)
 Daily 11:50, 2:15, 4:35, 7:05, 9:40

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Fri, Sun-Wed 12:25, 3:30, 6:50, 10:10; Sat 3:30, 6:50, 10:10; Thu 12:25, 3:30, 10:10; Digital Cinema: Daily 11:55, 1:00, 3:00, 4:10, 6:30, 7:30, 9:40, 10:35

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Daily 12:00, 3:25, 6:40, 9:45

PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL "PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (14A, coarse language, sexual violence, disturbing content)
 Daily 1:05, 3:50, 7:00, 9:55

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Daily 12:20, 3:55, 8:00

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG, frighten- ing scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Digital 3d Daily 1:10, 4:20, 6:45, 9:25

THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (14A)
 Daily 12:30, 3:20, 7:10

LAW ABIDING CITIZEN (14A, brutal violence)
 Daily 10:05

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA: TURANDOT ENCORE (Classification not available)
 Sat 11:00

CITY CENTRE 9

10200-102 Ave, 780 A21-7020

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Daily 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Daily 12:00, 3:00, 7:00, 10:00

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Dolby Stereo Digital, No passes Daily 12:30, 3:30, 7:15, 10:15

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG, frighten- ing scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Stadium Seating, DTS Digital, Digital 3d Daily 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG)
 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 12:45, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:30; Thu 12:45, 3:10, 10:30

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Daily 12:15, 4:00, 7:30

NINJA ASSASSIN (18A, gory violence)
 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating, No passes Fri-Tue, Thu 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40; Wed 12:50, 3:15, 10:40

THE ROAD (14A, disturbing content)
 Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Daily 12:40, 3:20, 6:50, 9:40

EVERYBODY'S FINE (PG, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Stadium Seating, DTS Digital Daily 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20

CLAREVIEW 10

4271-129 Ave, 780 A72-7600

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 On 2 Screens Fri, Mon-Thu 7:20, 9:00; Sat-Sun 2:00, 7:20, 9:00

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 On 2 Screens: Fri, Mon-Thu 3:50, 4:20, 6:40, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun 1:00, 2:30, 3:50, 4:20, 6:40, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Fri, Mon-Thu 3:45, 6:50, 9:45; Sat-Sun 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 9:45

PLANET 51 (G)
 Fri, Mon-Thu 4:00, 6:45, 9:10; Sat-Sun 1:20, 4:00, 6:45, 9:10

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG)
 Fri, Mon-Thu 4:10, 6:35; Sat-Sun 1:10, 4:10, 6:35

NINJA ASSASSIN (18A, gory violence)
 No passes Fri 4:50, 7:25, 9:50; Sat-Sun 1:50, 4:50, 7:25, 9:50; Mon-Thu 4:50, 7:25, 9:50

OLD DOGS (G)
 Digital Presentation, No passes Fri 4:15, 7:05, 9:25; Sat-Sun 1:40, 4:15, 7:05, 9:25; Digital Presentation Mon-Thu 4:15, 7:05, 9:25

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject

matter)
 Fri, Mon-Thu 4:25, 7:00, 9:35; Sat-Sun 1:45, 4:25, 7:00, 9:35

ARMORED (14A)
 Fri, Mon-Thu 4:40, 7:15, 9:40; Sat-Sun 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40

DUGGAN CINEMA-CAMROSE

6601-48 Ave, Camrose, 780 608-2144

PLANET 51 (G)
 Daily 7:15 9:00; Sat-Sun, Thu 2:15

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Daily 6:55 9:20; Sat-Sun, Thu 1:55

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Daily 7:05 9:05; Sat, Sun, Thu 2:05

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Daily 6:45, 9:15; Sat-Sun, Thu 2:00

OLD DOGS (G)
 Daily 7:10 9:10; Sat, Sun 2:10; Movies for Mommies: Dec 10: 1:00

GALAXY-SHERWOOD PARK

2020 Sherwood Dr, 780 A16-0150

ARMORED (14A)
 No passes Fri 3:45, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 9:40; Mon-Thu 7:00, 9:40

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Fri 4:20, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun 1:00, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10; Mon-Thu 7:20, 10:10

OLD DOGS (G)
 Fri 4:15, 6:40, 9:45; Sat-Sun 1:15, 4:15, 6:40, 9:15; Mon-Thu 6:40, 9:15

NINJA ASSASSIN (18A, gory violence)
 Fri 4:45, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun 1:30, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15; Mon-Thu 7:40, 10:15

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG)
 No passes Fri 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun 1:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30; Mon-Thu 7:10, 9:30

PLANET 51 (G)
 Fri 5:00, 7:15, 9:40; Sat-Sun 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:40; Mon-Thu 7:15, 9:40

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Fri 3:45, 6:45, 9:45; Sat-Sun 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45; Mon-Thu 6:45, 9:45

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Fri 3:50, 6:50, 10:00; Sat-Sun 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 10:00; Mon-Thu 6:50, 10:00

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Fri 4:10, 8:00; Sat-Sun 12:40, 4:10, 8:00; Mon-Thu 8:00

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG, frighten- ing scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Digital 3d Fri 5:15, 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50; Mon-Thu 7:30, 9:50

GRANDIN THEATRE-ST ALBERT

Grandin Mall, St Winston Churchill Ave, St Albert, 780 A54-9822

PLANET 51 (G)
 No passes Daily 1:00, 3:00, 4:55, 6:50, 8:45

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 No passes Daily 1:15, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Daily 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:20

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 No passes Daily 1:30, 4:05, 6:40, 9:15

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Daily 12:35, 3:20, 6:05, 8:50

LEDUC CINEMAS

Leduc, 780 352-3922

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Daily 6:55, 9:35; Sat-Sun 12:55, 3:35

OLD DOGS (G)
 Daily 7:05, 9:25; Sat-Sun 1:05, 3:25

BROTHERS (14A, coarse language, mature subject matter)
 Daily 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun 1:10, 3:30

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)
 Daily 7:00, 9:35; Sat-Sun 1:00, 3:35

METRO CINEMA

9828-101A Ave, Citadel Theatre, 780 A25-9212

THE BICYCLE THIEF (G)
 Fri, Sun, Tue 7:00; Sat, Mon 9:00

THE MIRROR (14A)
 Fri, Sun, Tue 9:00; Sat, Mon 7:00

PARKLAND CINEMA 7

130 Century Crossing, Spruce Grove, 780 872-2232; Serv- ing Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, Parkland County

NINJA ASSASSIN (18A, gory violence)
 Daily 7:05, 9:05; Sat, Sun, Tue 2:05, 3:05

TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG, violence)
 Daily 6:45, 9:30; Sat, Sun, Tue 12:45, 3:30

PLANET 51 (G)
 Daily 6:50, 9:10; Sat, Sun, Tue 12:50, 3:10

THE BLIND SIDE (PG, mature subject matter)

Daily 6:55, 9:25; Sat, Sun, Tue 12:55, 3:25

OLD DOGS (G)
 Daily 7:00, 9:15; Sat, Sun, Tue 1:10, 3:15

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG)
 Daily 7:10, 9:20; Sat, Sun, Tue 1:10, 3:20

2012 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children)
 Daily 7:30; Sat, Sun, Tue 2:00

GARNEAU

8772-109 St, 780 A33-0723

AN EDUCATION (PG, mature subject matter)
 Daily 7:00, 9:00; Sat, Sun 2:00

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (14A, coarse language throughout)
 Sat, Dec 4: Midnight

PRINCESS

10337-82 Ave, 780 A33-0728

COCO AVANT CHANEL (PG, sexually suggestive scenes)
 Daily 9:00; Sat, Sun 3:00

GOOD HAIR (PG, coarse language sexual content)
 Daily 7:10, 9:10; Sat-Sun

Film Capsules

<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

Frank—and the rest of us—emotionally. But Frank's a trooper. He packs a small suitcase and sets out to visit his offspring whether they like it or not. So we have here a road movie of sorts, one where each stop yields fresh revelations about Frank's ostensibly perfect family, the lot having long ago made a pact to withhold from dad all their disappointments, shortcomings, or personal tragedies.

Writer/director Kirk Jones' remake of the 1990 Italian tearjerker employs some shrewd devices to deliver exposition while sticking closely to Frank's point-of-view. The telephone wires Frank passes as he's whisked around the country courtesy of Amtrak or Greyhound emit conversations between his children informing us of troubles unknown to him, and the blur of nostalgia that has Frank "see" his children in their pint-sized versions when they reunite, building up to a dream sequence in which present-day Frank converses with a bunch of 10-year-olds about precisely those matters his adult kids won't discuss. Jones' execution of these devices however is pretty corny—almost as corny as the light gags about Frank's inability to use chopsticks, or Dario Marianelli's sappy score. *Everybody's Fine* is a movie determined to keep its aim safely within range of the middlebrow, its protracted denouement letting no opportunity to tie up every last possible knot, revealing a conspicuous paucity of faith in its audience's imagination. Yet for all that, you know, the movie really works.

This is partly due to De Niro, so relaxed in his own skin, never crowding his fellow actors in any given scene, so deft with conveying bottled-up feelings, so touching in the simplest moments—the way he stifles a broader smile when he coerces his eldest daughter to say out loud that she's a partner in his ad agency; his understated playing of the scene where he phones his own house just to hear his dead wife's voice on the answering machine. But the greater credit is due to the essential wisdom of the story, which for all its schmaltz

never rings false in the ways that count. It's a story about confronting that powerful myth that all your hard work will ensure some reward in the shape of your children. A lot of us have fathers like Frank, working class guys who push too hard, who we can't bear to disappoint. Some of us are Frank—though I have a harder time seeing this aging widower going out to see this movie. The point is that *Everybody's Fine* isn't very artful, but it is truthful, and quite moving. Sometimes that's fine enough.

JOSEF BRAUN

// JOSEF@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Brothers

Directed by Jim Sheridan
Written by David Benioff
Starring Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman
★★★★☆

These prestige pictures, these all-star casts in dramas about serious subjects released in the height of awards season, are rarely so subdued as Jim

Sheridan's *Brothers*. Oh, it certainly has its moments of intensity: anyone who's seen the trailer, with Tobey Maguire's wild gesticulating and gunfire, knows that. But more often, those moments that are so often cheap shots at our basest sentiments or acting on parade—a wife learns her soldier husband won't be coming home, his brother and father fight at his apparent funeral, the soldier returns, and later confronts his brother over time spent around the wife—are welcomingly cut off before the fireworks start, or left pregnant with tension that's never resolved.

It's an appropriate tactic to take in this story based on a Danish film, about a Marine back from the dead (Maguire), who returns to his wife (Natalie Portman) and newly responsible, caring brother (Jake Gyllenhaal), only to be unable to talk or relate to anyone about what's happened to him. As with his behaviour, the clear indication that something's going on, something should be happening, but no resolution, let's us build everything up in our own mind,

and makes the occasional bursts of explanation, or of feeling, all the more revealing and relatable. Emotionally, at least, *Brothers* sucks us in, or at least usually sucks us in.

Usually, because for the talent of Portman and Gyllenhaal—especially Gyllenhaal, who has his ex-con character nailed from the way he holds his fork like a shovel to the pissed-off, teenage snarkiness he lets out around his disapproving father—Maguire is just not a very good actor at all. Part of the problem is that he doesn't look anything like a marine—or, at least, not like a pre-POW marine, all gangly, thin and awkward. More importantly, though, he seems content to just slap on a thousand-yard stare, which is about as far into his character's confusion and disassociation as we're allowed to see. His shell-shocked marine isn't supposed to be emotionally available, of course, but Maguire can't really do rage well either, and his big climactic scene is far too close to ridiculous to pack much emotional punch.

Director Jim Sheridan's style is also let down by a script that doesn't seem terribly interested in exploring its underlying ideas, either. It will eventually come out and tell us that it's about Maguire's ability to get his life back, but his experience is so harrowing and specific, it doesn't really work as a metaphor for the average wartime experience. On top of that, though some nice familial tensions are created, all it's trying to say is that we should really just try to talk to each other. That will probably be a more potent message once Oprah retires.

Still, there is Gyllenhaal (and a surprisingly mature performance from 10-year-old Bailee Madison as a suffering daughter), and some finely crafted scenes of understated tension. They're not enough to push it over the top, but they at least make it more worthwhile from the usual middlebrow prestige stuff that fills up screens this time of year.

DAVID BERRY

// DAVID@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Playing at the Metro

The Mirror

Fri, Dec 4, Sun, Dec 6, Tue, Dec 8 (9 pm)
Sat, Dec 5, Mon, Dec 7 (7 pm)
Directed by Andrei Tarkovsky
Written by Tarkovsky, Aleksandr Misharin
Margarita Terekhova
Metro Cinema (9828 - 101 Ave)
★★★★★

A television documentary shows a young man being treated for a severe stutter. A woman perches upon a bowed fence, gazing upon a pastoral landscape. Nearby children are sleeping. A gust of wind brushes through the undulating foliage, causing everyone to pause, as though grasping at some elusive memory. Soon a house will catch fire. Later the woman will rush back to the printing press where she works, panicked that she may have made a disastrous typographical error—this is Stalinist Russia, and there are words that can ruin lives. Soon a father will tell a son about a red-haired girl he once loved. There will be newsreel footage, of the Spanish Civil War, of Soviet troops wading through the shallow, muddy waters of Lake Sivash, of clamoring Chinese holding up the Little Red Book. There'll be a second woman,

physically resembling the first, but more guarded, modern and icily sexy than her twin, who'll examine herself in mirror while talking to a man who remains off camera. There'll be a snow-blanketed field where children play in an even, scattered formation, as though staged by Brueghel. All of these scenes, separate by time, by their varied roots in personal memories or dreams, hearsay or history, flow into one another, linked only by the filmmaker's carefully guided stream of consciousness and ever-drifting camera by the immersive central performance by Margarita Terekhova, who resembles the young Meryl Streep, as the filmmaker's mother and first wife; and by poem read by their author, who's also the filmmaker's father, though this is never made explicit. *The Mirror* (1975) has typically been described as Andrei Tarkovsky's most difficult film. So why is this the one that moves me most?

Bridging Solaris (72) and *Stalker* (73), *The Mirror* hovers between these science-fictions as something grounded in personal experience, in the realms of childhood and parenthood, war and terror. It is among the closest things we have to a poetic memoir from a major filmmaker. It floats in the confluence of the political and the personal while eschewing context. I'd suggest regarding *The Mirror* as an essay film as much as anything else, yet ultimately the film's genre is stubbornly *sui generis*. Among its offerings is the opportunity to watch a film discover its own form as it unfolds. If you treasure this iconic maverick of Russian and later European cinema, you partly do so because of his relentless belief in the medium's possibilities. Tarkovsky often looked to painting, music and literature for inspiration, yet rather than result in something merely mimetic or regressive, his absorption of other media rendered his films only more distinctive and progressive. Because *The Mirror* is so personal; because it's as perplexing as it is hauntingly beautiful; because its structure requires such an act of surrender from viewers unconditioned to its rhythms and ambiguities, it speaks directly to each individual's unique points of connection to what transpires on screen, whether it be the tensions lingering between divorced parents, the longing for some lost idyll or some now-aged or dead parent to take us by the hand, the blur of historical upheaval, or the sight of our home going up in flames.

Everything we need to comprehend about the film's fundamental purpose is made plain in the title: this is a work of reflection. Appropriately, there are reflective surfaces everywhere, not to mention water, pouring down walls in the most dream-like moments. It's also an interrogation of vanity and fears of aging. Like a hall of mirrors, it's a labyrinth where truth, conjecture and fantasy, where reality—Tarkovsky's actual parents, the archival footage—and re-enactment—the dacha was meticulously reconstructed on the original site from photos of the actual dacha where Tarkovsky spent childhood summers—are often indistinguishable. To "decode" *The Mirror*, to catalogue and understand the full significance of its many layers, requires repeat encounters and research into both Tarkovsky's life and Soviet history. But to understand the emotional textures of *The Mirror* should only take a single, patient viewing, after which this parade of memories will likely remain unforgettable.

JOSEF BRAUN

// JOSEF@VUEWEEKLY.COM



▲ THE MIRROR
▼ BROTHERS

MacEwan

think Ahead

**Can't get into the program you want?
Need to upgrade? MacEwan can help.**

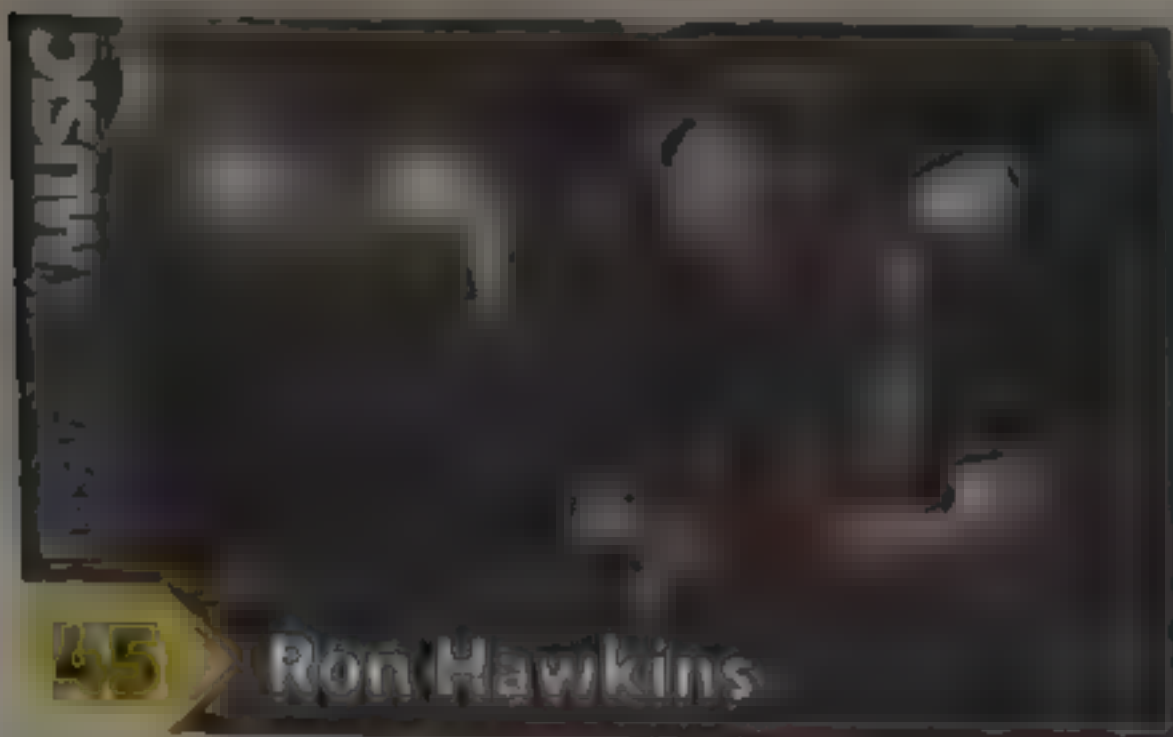
Located at the Alberta College campus of Grant MacEwan University, the Preparation for University and College program can help you improve your high school grades, earn university and college level credit and receive a personalized plan for success.

Think MacEwan. Start in January.

Call 780-497-4029 for information or visit:
www.MacEwan.ca/preparation

www.MacEwan.ca

MUSIC



PREVUE // JESSICA HEINE

The story so far

Local songstress keeps the folk tradition alive

CAROLYN NIKODIM
CAROLYN@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Storytelling is a way of connecting with people. It is the way we start understanding ourselves and the world around us.

The trajectory for many storytellers is to start writing about themselves, their experiences, and then move on to topics outside of themselves. It is a natural progression.

That's how it was for Edmonton-based folk singer **Jessica Heine**.

"Once I started to notice it, I just kind of embraced it, and I've been writing more intentionally that way now," she says. "But I think that it was just coming from a place where I was writing all songs about me and all very personal-based, and I think after a while it gets to be all the same and I wanted to do some different stuff."

"I got to a point where I was in a really good place and I wasn't really sad anymore," she adds. "A lot of songs you write, they're kind of depressing and you're just writing ... a lot of people say that it is therapy for them, and I was in a really good place and I didn't have anything really sad to write about."

The progression, of course, has opened up a whole new world of inspiration, as is evidenced by Heine's second album, *Songteller Storywriter* released in June, with songs like "Juliet & the Knife Thrower" or "Ladies of the Bible."

"When I started performing live, I realized how much I enjoyed telling the stories to people and how much people really enjoyed hearing the story behind a song or hearing that there is some story element to it," she explains. "Historically speaking, that's what folk singing has been—storytelling and historically true stories, as well as just taking things from your culture or other cultures and expressing them."

These days, Heine is digging into old sto-



LOCAL

JUST THE FACTS >> Jessica Heine stays away from the bells and whistles while recording // Centree Photography

ries, from Greek mythology to Russian folklore, and re-imagining them in song. She has also been back in the studio with Terry Tran, who she co-produced her last album with. Although the pair have recorded some demos, there are no plans on releasing another album any time soon.

"We've got a couple of different things on the go. I really like blues music, and so we were talking about exploring something with a little bit more blues influence, and he's really interested in electronica right now, so maybe combining the two," she says. "So that's something that we've been playing with a bit. And what else? We've been talking about doing more EPs and maybe shorter records—a couple of those—something that would be like different themes and then creating a whole album out of four EPs."

Whatever comes out of the pair's studio experiments, if *Songteller Storywriter* is any indication, there will be more moments of organic perfection.

"I really think that there's a reason people love live recordings, like to see live music," Heine says. "Today it is so easy to Pro Tool and fix everything and you can auto-tune somebody who can't sing at all and make them sound like they're really good, and I like the idea of creating something that you could re-create live, without all of the bells and whistles." **V**

SUN, DEC 6 (7:30 PM)
JESSICA HEINE
WITH MIKE ANGUS, KRIS Demeanor,
MARIA DUNN
HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, \$12

PREVUE // THIS GIRL, THAT BOY

Back in the saddle

This Girl, That Boy reunites and evolves

ASHLEY KASCAK
// ASHLEY@VUEWEEKLY.COM

At a noticeable 5-foot-3, what Donna Mae Kennedy lacks in height she makes up for in talent fronting Edmonton indie-pop band *This Girl, That Boy*. It's not exactly atypical to be short or to be a woman fronting a band, but Kennedy says being an Asian woman with a big voice at the front of a Cauca-

sian band has always generated a reaction.

"Being Filipino, it kind of takes people by surprise because they don't expect me to be fronting the band," says Kennedy. "They are usually like, 'What the? That voice is coming from you? How is that possible,' she laughs. "It's the stereotype too. It's kind of like, 'Aren't Asians supposed to be good at math or something?'"

"Then again, I'm not really seeing a lot of female Asians fronting the band," she adds. "That's another goal of mine: to really put someone like me—a female minority—to the forefront of the Canadian music industry."

Like most aspiring artists, getting to the forefront of the industry—or

CONTINUED ON PAGE 49 >>

Gang Show BINGO!

Nov. 19th

7:00 PM

\$3.75 Demopottles, Illballs, Jack & Jager Shots

\$2.75 Bottle of Lucky

Toonie Sirloin Sliders

Flans Official!

SONIC 102.9 & JOL PRESENT

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12 AT THE STARLITE ROOM

SLOAN

MAGNETA LANE

TV HEART ATTACK

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TICKETMASTER, BLACKBIRD, MAGNETA LANE | DOORS AT 9:00 PM | NO MINORS

Flash Jam

FRI DECEMBER 4
THE FLASH JAM
 KAZMEGA | GALACTIC ORBIT | SECRET BROADCAST

SAT DECEMBER 5
NO HEAT TOMORROW
 THE ORDER OF CHAOS | AWKWARD SILENCE | LOOKING EAST
 TIGHT | MY SISTER OCEAN | SIX STRING LOADED | GROUNDED STAR

FRI DEC 11
LIGHT MY FIRE!
 A WINTER DANCE PARTY. BLUE J & TRAVY D

SAT DEC 12
HELLBOUND
 THE OZZY OSBOURNE EXPERIENCE | COLD METAL

THU DEC 17
ALEXANDER CHEMIST
 WHISKEY WAGON | FEAST OR FAMINE | MICHAEL JAMES BAND

FRI DEC 18 (ONE RED CARPET PARTY)

Lucky 13
 dance pub

10551-82 ave
 Edmonton, Alberta
 www.lucky-13.ca

Music by digitally screwed DJ Chad Cook

\$3/Highballs
 \$4/Shooters
 \$11.5 Bottle Service

MUSIC WEEKLY

FAX YOUR FREE LISTINGS TO 780.426.2889
 OR EMAIL LISTINGS@VUEWEEKLY.COM
 DEADLINE: FRIDAY AT 3PM

THURSDAY

BLUES ON WHYTE Maurice John Vaughn

CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY PUB Open stage hosted by Alberta Crude; 6-10pm

CROWN PUB Bass Head Thursday: Drum and Bass, Dub Step, Hip Hop, Break beats; 9pm

DRUID Guitar heroes

DUSTER'S PUB Thursday open jam hosted by the Assassins of Youth (blues/rock); 9pm; no cover

DV8 Open mic Thursdays

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE Stereos, The Midway State, The Artist Life, The Envy, Radio for Help; all ages; 8pm (door); \$22.50 at TicketMaster

ENCORE CLUB With A Latin Twist: free Salsa Dance Lessons at 9pm

HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB Open jam, 6:30pm; Desert Bar Band, Dig, Wacousta

HOOLIGANZ PUB Open stage Thursday: hosted by Phil (from Nobody Likes Dwight)

HYDEAWAY Promatheus, friends; 8-11:45pm

IVORY CLUB 10 Hip Hop Acts; \$10

JAMMERS PUB Thursday open jam; 7-11pm

JULIAN'S—Chateau Louis Graham Lawrence (jazz piano); 8pm

L.B.'S PUB Open jam with Ken Skoreyko; 9pm

LIVE WIRE BAR Open Stage Thursdays with Gary Thomas

NAKED CYBERCAFÉ Open stage every Thu; bring your own instruments; 8pm

NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE Bingo-Dexter Nebula's Dysfunctional House of Bingo, Dexter Nebula, Greg Gory

NORTH GLENORA HALL Jam by Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers

RED PIANO BAR Hottest dueling piano show featuring the Red Piano Players; 8pm-1am

RIC'S GRILL Peter Belec (jazz); every Thu; 7-10pm

SECOND CUP—Varscona Live music every Thursday night between 7pm and 9pm

SHELL THEATRE—Dow Centennial Centre Jason McCoy Christmas; 7:30pm; \$42.50 (adult)/\$39.50 (student/senior) at TicketMaster

STARLITE ROOM III Scarlett USS Ubiquitous Synergy Seeker; no minors;

8pm (door); \$13.50 at TicketMaster, Blackbyrd, Unionevents.com

WILD WEST SALOON Gary Shade

DJs

BILLY BOB'S LOUNGE Escape Entertainment

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE Big Rock Thursdays: DJs on 3 levels—Topwise Soundsystem spin Dub & Reggae in The Underdog

BUDDY'S DJ Bobby Beatz; 9pm; no cover before 10pm; Shiwana Millionaire Wet Underwear Contest

FILTHY MCNASTY'S Punk Rock Bingo with DJ S.W.A.G.

FLUID LOUNGE Girls Night out

FUNKY BUDDHA—Whyte Ave Requests with DJ Damian

GAS PUMP Ladies Nite: Top 40/dance with DJ Christian

GINGUR SKY Urban Substance Thursdays

HALO Thursdays Fo Sho: with Allout DJs DJ Degree, Junior Brown

KAS BAR Urban House: with DJ Mark Stevens; 9pm

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Absolut Thursdays: with DJ NV and Joey Nokturnal; 9:30pm (door); no cover

LUCKY 13 Sin Thursdays with DJ Mike Thomas

NEW CITY SUBURBS Bingo at 9:30pm followed by Electroshock Therapy with Dervish Nazz Nomad and Plan B (electro, retro)

ON THE ROCKS Salsaholic Thursdays: Dance lessons at 8pm; Salsa DJ to follow

New: classic rock, R&B, urban and dance with DJ Mikee; 9pm-1am; no cover

PLANET INDIGO—St Albert Hit It Thursdays: breaks, Salsaholic, Latin, and 74 residents.

PROHIBITION Throwback Thu: old school r&b, hip hop, dance, pop, funk, soul, house and everything retro with DJ Service, Awesome

RENDEZVOUS PUB Metal Thursday with org666

STARLITE ROOM Music 1st and The Techno Hippy Crew: Bassnectar, Kush Arora, Shamik and guests; 8pm

STOLLI'S Dancehall, hip hop with DJ Footnotes hosted by Elle Dirty and ConScience every Thu; no cover

TEMPLE Surely Temple Thursdays: with DJ Tron, DCD, Optimix Prime, Miyuru Fernando; 9pm (door); \$5 (cover)

WUNDERBAR DJ Thermos Rump Shakin' Thursdays: From indie to hip hop, that's cool and has a beat; no cover

CARROT Live music Friday: Marv Machura; all ages; 7:30-9:30pm; \$5 (door)

CASINO EDMONTON Colleen Rae and Cornelia

CASINO YELLOWHEAD Catalyst (Caribbean)

COAST TO COAST Open Stage every Friday hosted by Steve Kennedy; 9:30pm

LA CREMA CAFFE Back Porch Swing; 7:30pm; \$15

DV8 TAVERN Live music every Fri; 9pm; \$5

EARLY STAGE SALOON Burnstick (sax band)

ENCORE CLUB 4 Play Friday

FESTIVAL PLACE The Nylons Christmas Show; 7:30pm; Sold out

FIDDLER'S ROOST Brian Gregg (birthday bash); musical instruments welcome; 7:30pm; no cover

FRESH START CAFÉ Live music Fridays: Carrie Hryniv; 7-10pm; \$5

HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB Hodson; 7:30pm (door); 9pm (show); \$15 (door)

IRISH CLUB Jam session 8pm; no cover

IVORY CLUB Duelling piano show with Jesse, Shane, Tiffan and Erik and guests

JEFFREY'S The Civil Suits (rock and blues); \$10

JEKYLL AND HYDE PUB Every Friday: Headwind (classic pop/rock); 9pm; no cover

JULIAN'S—Chateau Louis Graham Lawrence (jazz piano); 8pm

LEVA CAPPUCCINO BAR Live music every Fri

VENUE GUIDE

180 DEGREES 10730-107 St, 780.414.0233

ARTERY 9535 Jasper Ave

AVENUE THEATRE 9030-118 Ave, 780.477.2149

AXIS CAFÉ 10349 Jasper Ave, 780.990.0031

BANK ULTRA LOUNGE 10765 Jasper Ave, 780.420.9098

BILLY BOB'S Continental Inn, 16625 Stony Plain Rd, 780.484.7751

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE 10425-82 Ave, 780.439.1082

BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ 9624-76 Ave, 780.989.2861

BLUES ON WHYTE 10329-82 Ave, 780.439.3981

BOOTS 10242-106 St, 780.423.5014

BRIXX BAR 10030-102 St (downstairs), 780.428.1099

BUDDY'S 11725B Jasper Ave, 780.488.6636

CASINO EDMONTON 7055 Argyle Rd, 780.463.9467

CASINO YELLOWHEAD 12464-153 St, 780.424.9467

CHATEAU LOUIS 11727 Kingsway, 780.452.7770

CHRISTOPHER'S 2021 Millbourne Rd, 780.462.6565

CHROME LOUNGE 132 Ave, Victoria Trail

COAST TO COAST 5552 Calgary Tr, 780.439.8675

CONVOCAATION HALL Arts Bldg, U of A, 780.492.3611

COPPERPOT Capital Place, 101, 9707-110 St, 780.452.7800

LA CREMA CAFFE 44 St Thomas St, St Albert, 780.458.8225

CROWN AND ANCHOR 15277 Castledowns Rd, 780.472.7696

CROWN PUB 10709-109 St, 780.428.5618

DIESEL ULTRA LOUNGE 11845 Wayne Gretzky Drive, 780.704.CLUB

DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB 9013-88 Ave, 780.465.4834

DOUBLE D'S 15203 Stony Plain Rd

DOW CENTENNIAL CENTRE—Shell Theatre 8700-84 St, Fort Saskatchewan, 780.992.6400, fortsask.ca

DRUID 11606 Jasper Ave, 780.454.9928

DUSTER'S PUB 6402-118 Ave, 780.474.5554

DV8 TAVERN 8307-99 St, DV8TAVERN.com

EARLY STAGE SALOON 4911-52 Ave, Stony Plain

EDMONTON EVENTS CENTRE WEM Phase III, 780.489.SHOW

EMPRESS 9912-82 Ave

ENCORE CLUB 957 Fir St, Sherwood Park, 780.417.0111

FESTIVAL PLACE 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park, 780.449.3378, 780.464.2852

FIDDLER'S ROOST 8906-99 St

FILTHY MCNASTY'S 10511-82 Ave, 780.916.1557

FLOW LOUNGE 11815 Wayne Gretzky Dr, 780.604.

FLUID LOUNGE 10105-109 St, 780.429.0700

FOXX DEN 205 Carnegie Drive, St Albert

FRESH START CAFÉ Riverbend Sq, 780.433.9623

FUNKY BUDDHA 10341-82 Ave, 780.433.9676

GAS PUMP 10166-114 St, 780.488.4841

GINGUR SKY 15505-118 Ave, 780.913.4312/780.953.3606

HALO 10538 Jasper Ave, 780.423.HALO

HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB 15120A (basement), Stony Plain Rd, 780.756.6010

HILL TOP PUB 8220-106 Ave, 780.490.7359

HOOLIGANZ PUB 10704-124 St, 780.452.1168

HORIZON STAGE 1001 Calahoo Rd, Spruce Grove, 780.962.8995

HYDEAWAY 10209-100 Ave, 780.426.5381

IRON BOAR PUB 4911-51st St, Wetaskiwin

IVORY CLUB 10304-111 St, 780.465.6800

JAMMERS PUB 11948-127 Ave, 780.451.8779

J AND R 4003-106 St, 780.436.4403

JEFFREY'S CAFÉ 9640 142 St, 780.451.8890

JEKYLL AND HYDE 10209-100 Ave, 780.426.5381

JUBILEE AUDITORIUM 11455-87 Ave, 780.429.1000

KAS BAR 10444-82 Ave, 780.433.6768

L.B.'S PUB 23 Alkins Dr, St Albert, 780.460.9100

LEGENDS PUB 6104-172 St, 780.481.2786

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE 11607 Jasper Ave, and Fl, 780.447.4495

LIVE WIRE 1107 Knotwood Rd. East

MCDUGALL UNITED CHURCH 10025-101 St

MORANGO'S TEK CAFÉ 10118-79 St

MYER HOROWITZ THEATRE SUB Building, U of A Campus

NAKED CYBERCAFÉ 10354 Jasper Ave

NEWCASTLE PUB 6108-90 Ave, 780.490.1999

NEW CITY 10081 Jasper Ave, 780.989.5066

NIKKI DIAMONDS 8130 Gateway Blvd, 780.439.8006

NORTH GLENORA HALL 13535-109A Ave

O'BYRNE'S 10616-82 Ave, 780.414.6766

ON THE ROCKS 11730 Jasper Ave, 780.482.4767

ORLANDO'S 115163-121 St

OVERTIME—Downtown 10304-111 St, 780.423.1643; South Whitemud Crossing, 4211-106 St, 780.485.1717

PALACE CASINO—WEM 8882-170 St, 780.444.2112

PARKLAND 53222, RR 272 Spruce Grove, 780.960.6871

PAWN SHOP 10551-82 Ave, Upstairs, 780.432.0814

PLANET INDIGO—Jasper Ave 11607 Jasper Ave; St Albert 812 Liberton Dr, St Albert

PLAY NIGHTCLUB 10220-103 St

PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL 10860-57 Ave

PROHIBITION 11026 Jasper Ave, 780.420.0448

QUEEN ALEXANDRA HALL 10425 University Ave

REDNEX BAR—MORINVILLE 10413-100 Ave, Morinville, 780.939.6955, rednex.ca

RED PIANO BAR 1638 Bourbon St, WEM, 8882-170 St, 780.486.7722

RED STAR 10538 Jasper Ave, 780.428.0825

RENDEZVOUS PUB 10108-149 St

RIC'S GRILL 24 Perron St, St Albert, 780.460.6602

ROBERT TEGLER STUDENT CENTRE Concordia Campus, 73 St, 112 Ave

ROSEBOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE 10111-117 St, 780.482.5851

ROSE AND CROWN 10235-101 St

ST JOSEPH'S BASILICA 10044-113 St

SECOND CUP—Mountain Equipment 12336-102 Ave, 780.451.7574; Stanley Milner Library 7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq; Varscona, Varscona Hotel, 106 St, Whyte Ave

SIDELINERS PUB 11018-127 St, 780.453.6006

SOBEYS—College Plaza 8225-112 St, Jasper Ave 10404 Jasper Ave

SORRENTINOS—South 4208 Calgary TR S, 780.434.7007

SPORTSWORLD 13710-104 St

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY Centre for Reading and the Arts, Main Fl, 7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq, 780.496.3030

STARLITE ROOM 10030-102 St, 780.428.1099

STEEPS—College Plaza 11116-82 Ave, 780.988.8105; Old Glenora 12411 Stony Plain Rd, 780.488.3505

STOLLI'S 2nd Fl, 10368-82 Ave, 780.437.2293

SUEDE LOUNGE 11806 Jasper Ave, 780.482.0707

TAPHOUSE 9020 McKenney Ave, St Albert, 780.458.0860

UNION HALL Argyle, 99 St, 780.702.3582

WALKABOUT PUB 10439 Whyte Ave

WHISTLESTOP LOUNGE 12416-132 Ave, 780.451.5500

WILD WEST SALOON 12912-50 St, 780.476.3388

WUNDERBAR 8120-101 St, 780.436.2286

Y AFTERHOURS 10028-102 St, 780.994.3256, yafterhours.com

YESTERDAYS PUB 112, 205 Carnegie Dr, St Albert, 780.459.0295

MUSIC // 41

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE

TUE
DEC
03

STEREOS

PRESENTED BY THE UNION
DOORS AT 8PM • ALL AGES • TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER

SUN
DEC
06

hatebreed

UNEARH - BORN OF OSIRIS - HATE ETERNAL
ALL AGES
PRESENTED BY THE UNION • DOORS AT 5:30PM • TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER

FRI
DEC
18

SOULSTICE FIRE ON ICE PARTY

FIRE THEMED EVENT...
MEN WEAR BLUE/WHITE {ICE}
WOMEN WEAR RED/YELLOW {FIRE}
PRESENTED BY GRAVITY EVENTS
DOORS AT 9PM • NO MINORS • TICKETS AT TICKETMASTER

FRI
DEC
26

THE 4TH ANNUAL
BOODANG CUSTOMER APPRECIATION
AND CHRISTMAS PARTY
MARCUS SCHULTZ
COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSION BEFORE 11 PM. \$20 THEREAFTER

TUE
DEC
31

THE BIG BANG NEW YEARS EVE EVENT

TICKETS
ON SALE
SAT DEC 5

#2556 8882-170 ST. {WEST EDM MALL} • 489-SHOW
EDMONTONEVENTCENTRE.CA

COMMENT >> SPONSORSHIP

Money for nothin'

Selling-out scheme is clever, but not profitable

In an era when record sales continue to diminish, it's fascinating to see how labels, distributors, retailers, promoters and artists try and come up with new revenue streams as they try and make up for lack of online and physical retail success.

And, well, British pop star Robbie Williams' offer may just be the tip of an iceberg. Williams sees himself like RIM stock. Pay up now, get dividends later. For an investment of 50-million-pounds, a benefactor would see 50 percent of all of Williams' future profits, from merch sales to concert tickets to endorsements.

In some ways, it's a throwback to a time when popes and rich European families would sponsor artists. Except, well, those artists tried their best not to offend their patrons, and didn't offer much in terms of immediate financial return. Williams isn't so much looking for a patron as an out-and-out gambler.

Now, Williams' career has had more lives than a cat and, for a bubblegum pop star, he's lasted a hell of a long time. But, when pop stars crash, they crash hard. They don't fade away gracefully. And they don't rack up any catalogue sales worth mentioning. It's not like Britney Spears is going to sell anything a decade from now. Just the facts—that's the way it works. So, if I had 50-million-quid, I wouldn't be gambling it away on a pop star in his late 30s. (Now, if I did have 50-million-pounds, I probably would drop off the grid and have some beach house in Maui and not answer my phone anymore. But that's just me.)

So, why wouldn't Williams go an extra step? If I was his business manager, here's what I'd suggest. Rather than a stake in all future profits, why not offer a lifetime sponsorship deal? That means, from now on, wherever Williams tours, records,

breathes, eats ... it's brought to you [PUT YOUR BRAND NAME HERE]

Look, sponsors already bring you too. They put their names on free downloads. They use your favourite songs in commercials. Heck, why not go all in? Sponsor an artist for life. Put an escape clause in the contract in case the musician gets all Gary Glitter on you or develops some kind of problem with which you don't want your firm associated. But, to me, that seems like a safer investment than pinning yourself to any future potential profit-taking. Instead, you know that your brand will be exposed everywhere your artist goes. Always wearing your shirt. Or telling people about your wonder mortgage rates. Or saying that yours is better than the other cola.

Yes, to those of you out there who still think it's about the music, remember that we can't all be like Fugazi. It used to be that selling out was considered an insult. Williams has showed us it's a career goal. Go, Robbie. V



Sunday Industry Night:
Requests with DJ Bo

SAVOY MARTINI LOUNGE
Reggae on Whyte: RnR
Sundays with DJ IceMan; no minors; 9pm; no cover

WUNDERBAR Sundays DJ
Gallate and XS, guests; no cover

MONDAY

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE
Sleeman Mondays: live music monthly; no cover

BLUES ON WHITE

CENTURY CASSO
Almost ABBA; \$24.95 at TicketMaster, Century Casino 780.643.4000; reserved seating

DEWANEY'S TAPAS BAR
Open stage Mondays with different songwriters hosting each week; presented by Jimmy Whiffen of Hole in the Guitar Productions; 8-12

NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE
you Mondays: Johnny Neck and his job present mystery musical guests

PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL
Acoustic instrumental old time fiddle jam hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society; 7pm

PROHIBITION CAFE
Dec-Jay Monday Night: Soul, R&B, Bnsh Invasion, Ska, Rocksteady, and more with Michael Rault

ROSE BOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE The Legendary Rose Bowl Monday Jam: hosted by Sherry-Lee Wisor and Darrek Anderson; 8pm

Classical

CONVOCATION HALL
Contempo New Music Ensemble; 7pm; free

MCDONALD UNITED CHURCH The Many Moods of Christmas: Greenwood Singers (CD release), Robert de Frece (director), U of A Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers, Jared Samborski (piano); 8pm; \$20 (adult)/\$18 (student/senior) at TDX on the Square, door

WINSPEAR CENTRE
Canadian Tenors Christmas Concert: Edmonton Symphony Orchestra; 7:30pm; Sold out

DJs

BAR WILD 24/7
Mondays: Service Industry Night; no minors; 9pm-2am

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE
Main Floor: Eclectic Nonsense, Confederacy of Dunces, Dad Rock, TJ Hookah and Rear Admiral Saunders

BUDDY'S DJ Dust 'n' Time; 9pm

FILTHY MURDER'S
Mondays: with DJ S.W.A.G.

FLUID LOUNGE Mondays
9pm

LUCKY 13 Industry Night with DJ Chad Cook every Monday

NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE Daniel and Fowler (eclectic tunes)

TUESDAY

BLUES ON WHITE
Feet

ENJOY BAR
Tuesday: Silver Creek, hosted by Mark Feduk (Red Ram, the Uncas); 9pm (door); \$5 (door)

CROWN PUB Underground At The Crown: underground, hip hop with DJ Xolin and Jae Maze; open mic; every Tue; 10pm; \$3

DRUID-Jasper Ave Open stage with Chris Wynters

FESTIVAL PLACE John McDermott's Christmas Show; 7:30pm; \$60 (table)/\$455 (box)/\$50 (theatre) at Festival box office

L.B.'S PUB Ammar's Moosehead Tuesday open stage every Tuesday night; 9pm-1am; featuring guests; hosted by Mark Ammar and Noel (Big Cat) Mackenzie

O'BYRNE'S Celtic Jam with Shannon Johnson and friends

SECOND CUP-12A Street Open mic every Tue; 8-10pm

SECOND CUP-Stanley Milner Library Open mic every Tue; 7-9pm

SIDELINERS PUB Tuesday All Star Jam with Alicia Tait and Rickey Sidecar; 8pm

YARDBIRD SUITE Tuesday Session: Thom Bennett Group; 7:30pm (door), 8pm (show); \$5

Classical

CONVOCATION HALL
Graduate Composers Concert: New works by Colin Labadie and Daniel Brophy: Two pieces for organ and two percussion; Jacek Sobieraj: An electronic piece with Marnie Giesbrecht (organ), Brian Jones and Brian Thurgood (percussion), Andriy Talpash (conductor); 7pm; free

WINSPEAR CENTRE
The Coming of the Lord: King's University College with the Concert, Chamber & Community Choirs, Dr. Melanie Turgeon (conductor), Mission Hill Brass Band; 8pm; \$20 (adult)/\$15 (student/senior)/\$5 (child under 12) at Winspear box office

DJs

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE
Main Floor: CJSR's Eddie Lunchpail; Wooftop: with DJ Gundam

BUDDY'S DJ Arrow Chaser; 9pm

ESMERALDA'S Retro every Tue; no cover with student ID

FUNKY BUDDHA-Whyte Ave Latin and Salsa music, dance lessons 8-10pm

GINGUR SKY Bashment Tuesdays: Reggae music; 9pm

NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE 'abilly, Ghoul-rock, spooky with DJ Vylan Cadaver

PROHIBITION Tuesday Punk Night

RED STAR Tuesdays: Experimental Indie Rock, Hip Hop, Electro with DJ Hot Philly

SPORTSWORLD Retro Night; 7-10:30pm

WEDNESDAY

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE
Main Floor: Glitter Gulch Wednesdays: live music once a month

BLUES ON WHITE
Fistful of Blues

COMFORT POT RESTAURANT Live jazz

every Wednesday night; Jim Head (guitar); 6-9pm

EDDIE SHORTS Wed open stage, band oriented, hosted by Chuck Rainville; 9pm-1am

EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE Stereos, the Midway, State, Artist Life, The Envy; all ages; 7pm (door), 8pm (show); \$22.50 at TicketMaster

FESTIVAL PLACE Michelle Wright: I'm Dreaming of a Wright Christmas; 7:30pm; \$40 (table)/\$38 (box)/\$34 (theatre) at Festival box office

FIDDLER'S ROOST Little Flower Open Stage with Brian Gregg; 8-11pm; \$2

RAVEN SOCIAL
open stage with The Rosette Guitar Duo; 7pm

IVORY CLUB This Girl, That Boy (CD release party), CocaKoo; 7pm (door), 8pm (show); \$8

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Open mic

NEW CITY Circ-O-Rama-Licious: Gypsy and circus fusion spectaculars; last Wed every month

NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE Evening with the Molestics; 8pm (door); no minors

NEW CITY SUBURBS Misfits, No Problem; tickets at New City, Freecloud, Megatunes, Blackbyrd

PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL
Acoustic Bluegrass jam presented by the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society every Wednesday evening

PROHIBITION Wednesdays with Roland Pemberton III

RED PIANO BAR Jazz and Shiraz Wednesdays featuring Dave Babcock and his Jump Trio

RIVER CREE Wednesdays Live Rock Band hosted by Yukon Jack; 7:30-9pm

SECOND CUP-Mountain Equipment Open Mic every Wed, 8-10pm

STEEPS TEA LOUNGE-College Plaza Open mic every Wed; hosted by Ernie Tersigni; 8:30-10pm

TEMPLE Wyld Style Wednesday: Live hip hop, every Wed; \$5

Classical

WINSPEAR CENTRE
Winterfest: Edmonton Public Schools orchestra and choirs; 7pm; \$12

DJs

BANK ULTRA LOUNGE
Wednesday Nights: with DJ Harley

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE
Main Floor: Blue Jay's Menu, Nest Wed Night: Brit pop, new wave, punk, rock 'n' roll with LL Cool Joe

BUDDY'S DJ Dust 'n' Time; 9pm; no cover before 10pm

DEER ULTRA LOUNGE
Wind-up Wednesdays: PoR hip-hop, reggae, old school reggaeton with InVincible Touch It, weekly guest DJ

FLUID LOUNGE
Wednesdays Rock This

IVORY CLUB DJ ongoing every WED; open DJ night, 9pm-close; all DJs welcome to spin a short set every Wednesday

LEGENDS PUB Hip hop/R&B with DJ Spincycle

NEW CITY LIKVID LOUNGE DJ Roxi Slade (indie, punk and metal)

NEW CITY SUBURBS Shake It: with Greg Gory and Eddie Lunchpail; no minors; 9pm (door)

NIKKI DIAMONDS
Punk and '80s metal every Wednesday

RED STAR Guest DJs every Wednesday

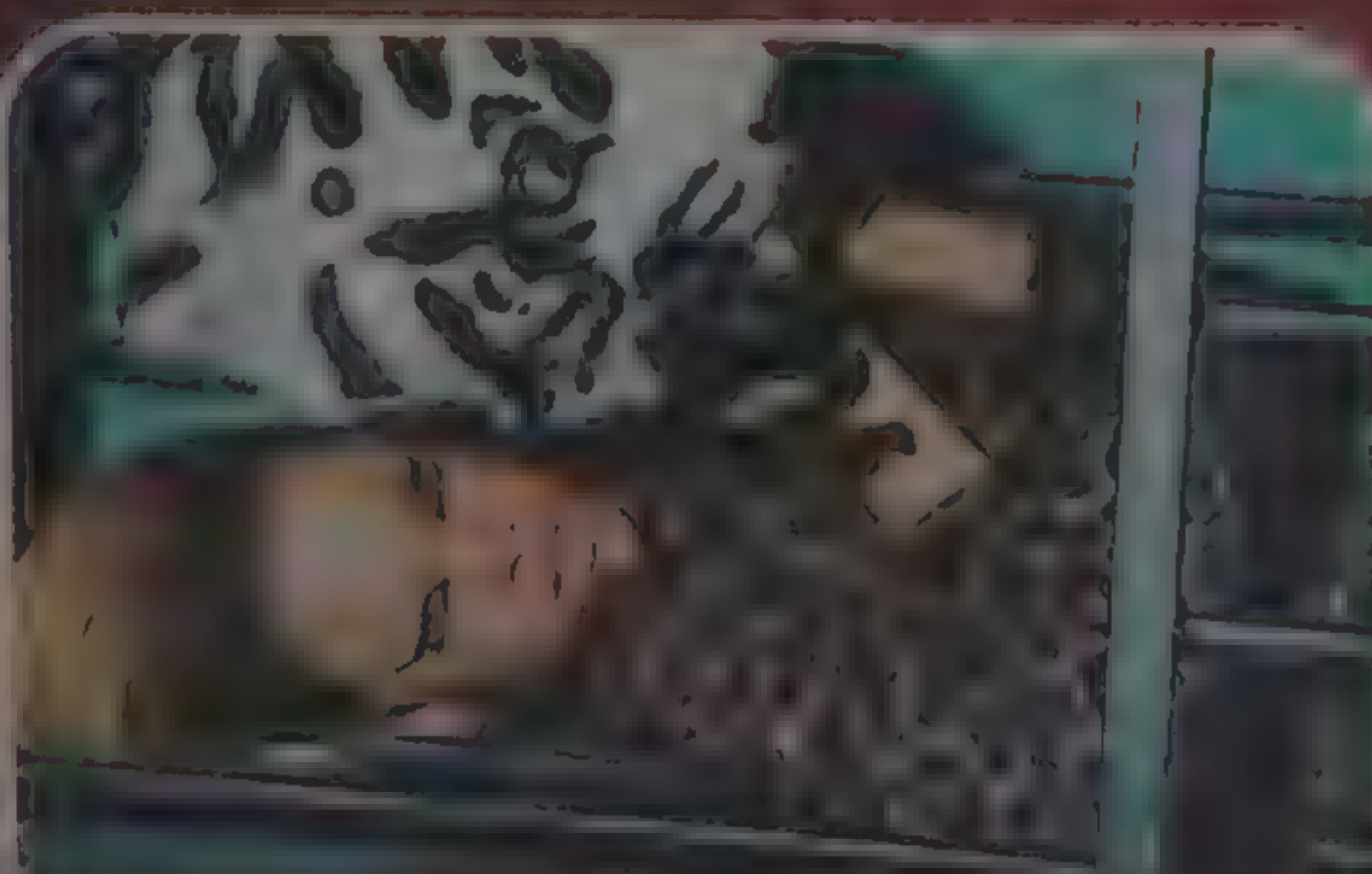
STARLITE ROOM Wild Style Wednesdays: Hip-Hop

STOLLI'S Beatparty Wednesdays: House, progressive and electronic with Rudy Electro, DJ Ry Space Age and weekly guests; 9pm-2am

WUNDERBAR Wednesday with new DJ; no cover

Y AFTERHOURS Y N Wednesday

HEAR THIS AD



HEAR THIS AT 11:00

THE FAKE MONSTER

117

8148
C. 123

MUSIC // 43

THIS THURSDAY & FRIDAY! TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR!

illScarlett

WITH **USS & GUESTS**

DOORS AT 8PM - 18+ ID REQ.

EARLY SHOW: DOORS AT 5PM - ALL AGES WELCOME
TICKETS ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

SHOW THIS SUNDAY! TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR!

hatebreed

CANNIBAL CORPSE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6
EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE

DOORS AT 5:30 - ALL AGES WELCOME
TIX ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

VUE WEEKLY



Whole
New
Rock

AFI

CAGE THE ELEPHANT

AFI AUTOGRAPH
SESSION
THURSDAY DEC 17
@ WEST49 WEM

MAdM
(MELISSA AUF DER MAUR)

TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW!

FRIDAY DECEMBER 18
SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE

EDMONTON AB DOORS 7 PM - ALL AGES - GENERAL ADMISSION



heaven

SEPTICFLESH

SATURDAY JAN 22
STARLITE ROOM

DOORS T 8PM - 18+ ID REQ.
TIX ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

EPICA

WITH DAATH AND BLACKGUARD

FEBRUARY 10
STARLITE ROOM

DOORS AT 8PM - 18+ ID REQ.
TIX ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

ARCH ENEMIES

FEBRUARY 3
EDMONTON EVENT CENTRE
DOORS AT 8PM - ALL AGES WELCOME
TICKETS ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

JUST ANNOUNCED! ON SALE FRIDAY!

HAMMERFALL

WITH POWERGLOVE

MARCH 21
STARLITE ROOM

VUE WEEKLY DOORS AT 8PM - 18+ ID REQ. - TIX ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

JUST ANNOUNCED! ON SALE FRIDAY!

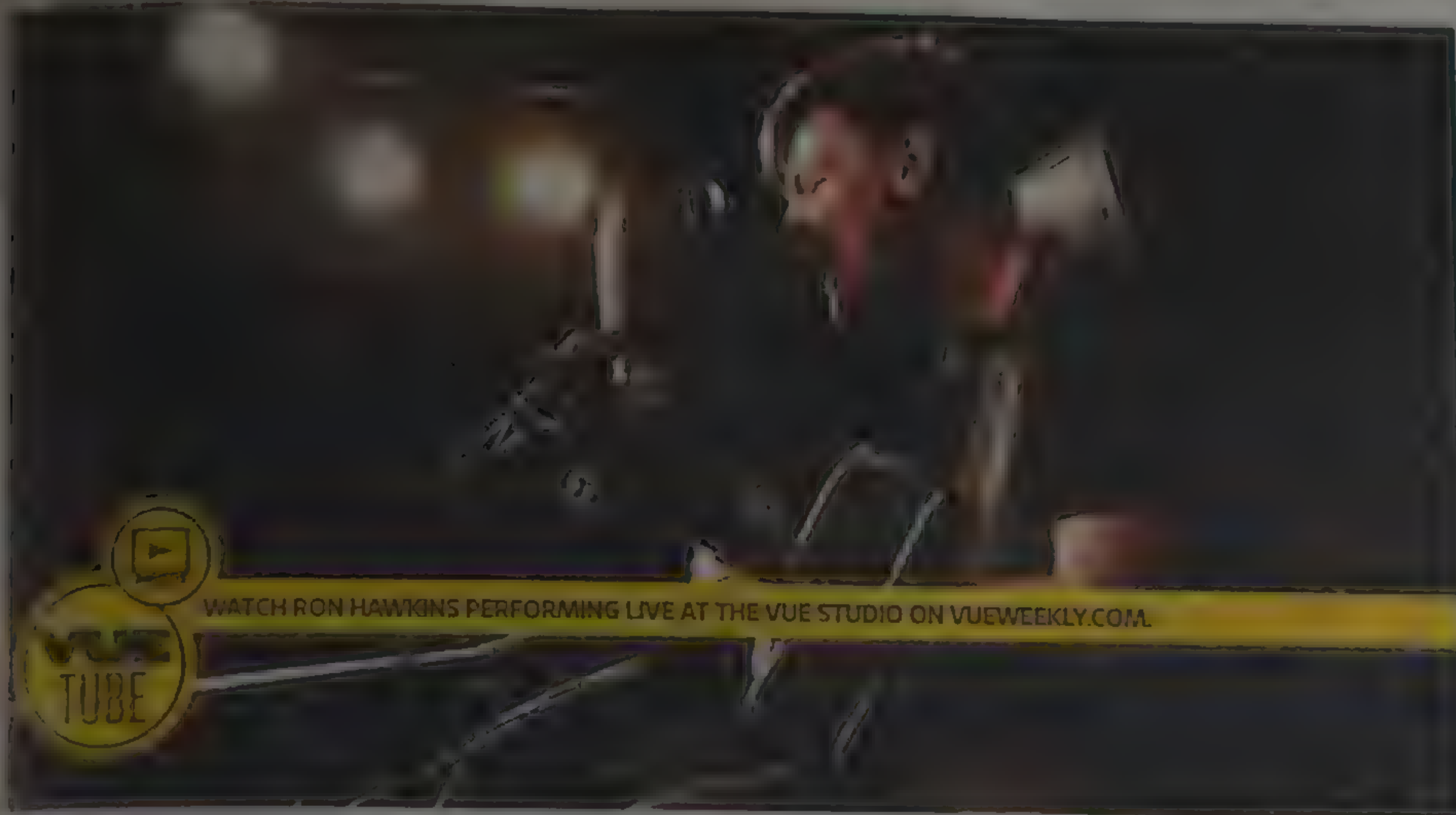
SONATA ARCTICA

WITH MUTINY WITHIN

APRIL 16 - STARLITE ROOM
DOORS AT 8PM - 18+ ID REQ. - TIX ALSO AT BLACKBYRD

ALSO AVAILABLE ON ticketmaster.ca 780-451-8000

FOLLOW US AT TWITTER.COM/UNIONEVENTS




WATCH RON HAWKINS PERFORMING LIVE AT THE VUE STUDIO ON VUEWEEKLY.COM.

THE LOWEST OF THE LOW >> Ron Hawkins plays solo in the Vue Studio before opening for Billy Bragg at the Winspear // Eden Munro

VUEFINDER // JAYCIE JAY



WORKIN' ON THE WEEKEND >> Shout Out Out Out Out's Jaycie Jayce builds a song at the Royal Bison Craft & Art Fair // Eden Munro



YOGA

EDMONTON YOGA STUDIO

Hatha Iyengar Ashtanga

12039 - 127 Street

www.edmontonyogostudio.com

tel 451.8131

COMING RIGHT UP...



ARTERY

9535 JASPER AVE

780.441.6966 THEARTERY@MUSELBA.CA

Book Holiday
Party Packages
Today

EATery Cantina Parties!

EVERY WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY 5:30-10PM

Yummy Drink Prices & No Door Charge Before 7pm

NEW MENU INCLUDES: Baba's Own Pynby Bowl with Delton Sausage
 • Veggie Bourne & Home Fries • Chick Pea & Organic Green Salads
 • Soup & Samays • Jamaican Parties • Chef Specials • Vegan Cupcakes

Friday, Dec 4: Folk music duo Danyluk & Card

with guest Mike Lent "The ReGifted" \$15 at the door 7pm.

Come down early for delicious food from our new Cantina menu!

Saturday, Dec 5: Edmonton Rocks for Iraq:

BOOK LAUNCH/GIG/FUNDEAISER featuring the music of The Southern Pink,
 KING Jay Gilday & his band, Sunset Trip. Also featuring the third book release
 from FEEL THE CALM PRESS indie printing house: "Poems Written on the Bus"

Starts at 8pm. Pay what you can, suggested donation = \$10

Why: 100% of profits from this event (door and books) go directly to building
 biosand-water filters for victims of war in Iraqi refugee camps.

Thursday, Dec 10: Literary Saloon Doors 7pm

Check out the new ARTery website and events calendar:

www.theartery.ca

Stop the Shopping

TO MAKE MUSIC!

Audio USB Mic

gig bag, pitch pipe,
strap, cord,
picks and DVD.

\$99

Epiphone
Les Paul Special II
Player Pack

\$360

Yamaha Gigmaker
5-piece set
with hardware.

\$590

Yamaha
Portable
Keyboards

\$139

Gift Cards

\$360

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO
DOWNLOAD THE SALE FLYER & SHOP ONLINE!

Long & McQuade

long-mcquade.com

10204 107th Ave • 780.423.4448 | 9219 28th Ave NW • 780.433.0000

NEW
STORE!

**Give The Gift
That Keeps on Giving!**

Buy any Drum Kit
or Guitar Package
And get one month of lessons free!

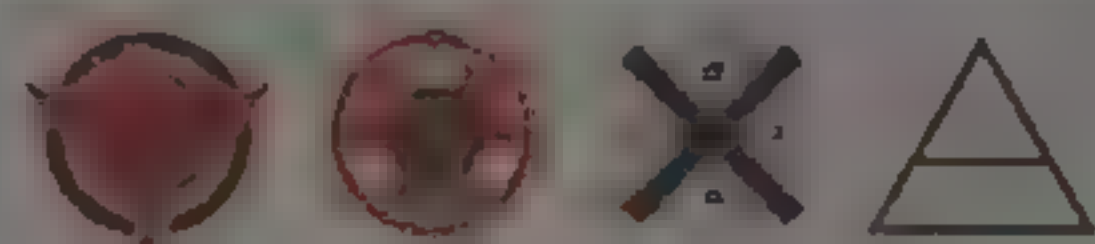
**acoustic acoustic
MUSIC DRUM**

S·H·O·P S·H·O·P
780.433.3545 9934 82ave

Drum kit package: Drumset, Seat, Cymbals
Guitar package: Guitar, Case, Tuner



THIRTY SECONDS TO MARS



THIS IS WAR

THE NEW ALBUM
FEATURING KINGS AND QUEENS

\$12.99*

WWW.THIRTYSECONDSTOMARS.COM

*DEC 8TH ONLY, WHILE QUANTITIES LAST.

give
the HMV gift card

listen·watch·play **hmv**

VUEFINDER

VUE FINDER

FRI, NOV 27 / YOU SAY PARTY! WE SAY DIE! / NEW CITY
WATCH THE SLIDE SHOW ONLINE AT VUEWEEKLY.COM

vuelocker.com

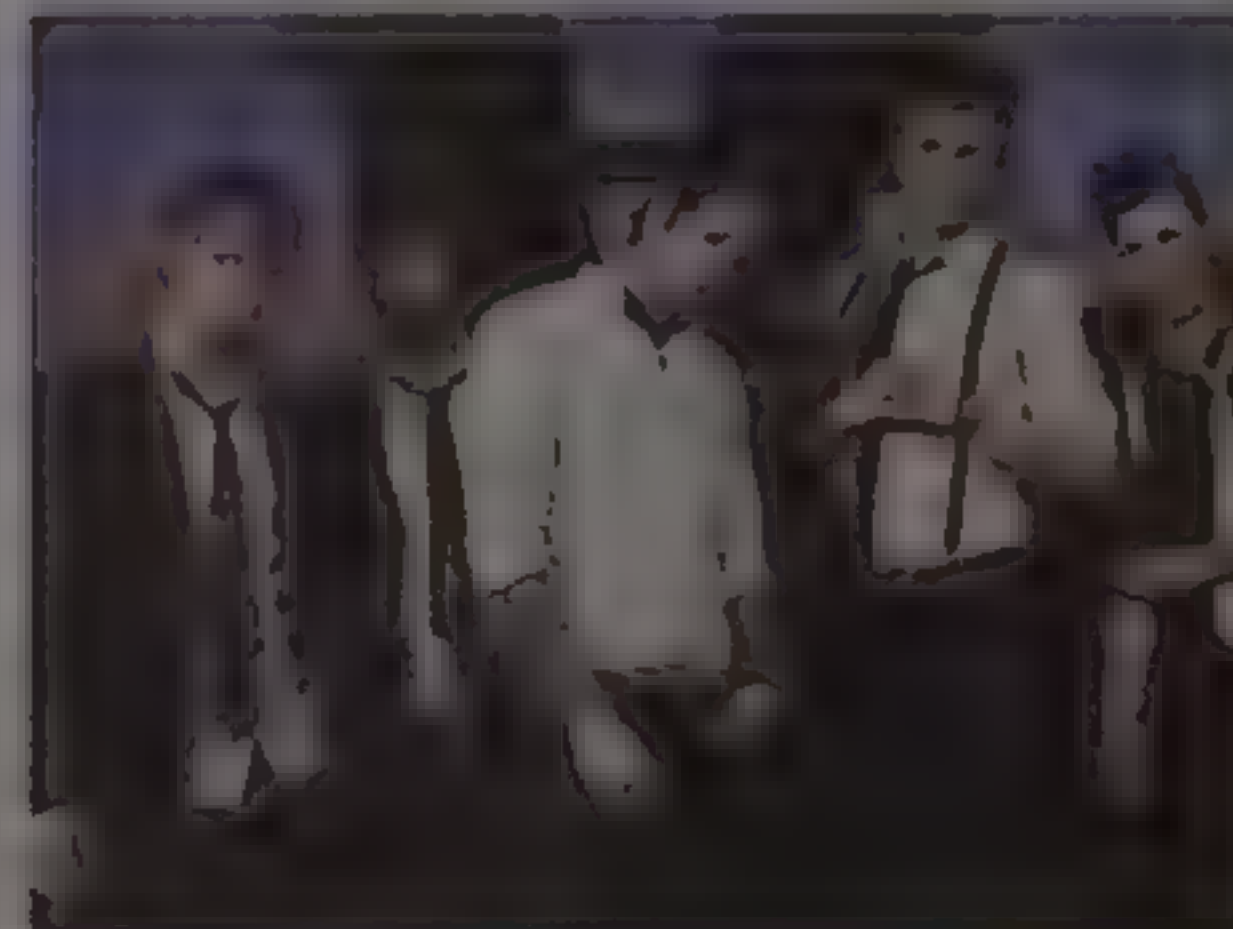
vuelocker.com

GIGS THIS WEEK

FRI, DEC 4 (9 pm)
HARPDOG BROWN & YUKON SLIM
THE CROWN PUB (10709 - 109 ST)

Not only will this be a show by British Columbia blues duo Harpdog Brown & Yukon Slim, but it will also be webcast and recorded as a live CD, which should—if everything works out—be available in the near future. This kind of old-meets-new, traditional-blues-plus-the-Internet stuff reminds me of those episodes of *Star Trek* where they go down to Earth and it's Wild West times. What was up with those anyway? How did they hide Worf's head? And how come no one noticed those weird glasses Geordi wore?

FRI, DEC 4 (8 pm)



THE FLASHJAM
WITH KAZMEGA, SECRET BROADCAST,
ORGANIC ORBIT
THE PAWN SHOP, \$10

I imagine a Flashjam as being something

akin to a flash mob, except that once everyone jumps out from the bushes, instead of some weird group hug thing there's a lot more air guitaring. The only way you'll find out if I'm right or not is to head down to the Pawn Shop this Friday to check out the experts—local boys Flashjam—as the group releases its debut, self-titled EP.

SUN, DEC 6 (5:30 pm)



CANNIBAL CORPSE
WITH HATEBREED, UNEARTH, BORN OF OSIRIS
HATE ETERNAL

I wish that Cannibal Corpse had put the show a little later because after I get out of Church youth group on Sunday afternoons—this week we're volunteering at an anti-Satan bake sale—I like to catch a quick nap before heading out to see some death metal. **V**

Do it for yourself

illScarlett lives up to its own expectations



SCATH, BIAH, BIAH & SCATH turned guitar into lyrics while writing its latest album // Supplied

MIKE ANGUS

When Canada's illScarlett hit gold with its major label debut, 2007's *All Day With It*, the band proved to critics that its blend of pop, punk and ska was a formula for success. The resulting pressure to follow up with another winner, however, led the band to a more hands-on, organic approach to recording its brand new record, *1UP!* And while the band may not be as DIY as lead-singer Alex Norman would have me believe, with an enviable position on Sony's roster the group is now able to call the shots as they see them, keep it real and have a ton of fun in the process.

"We recorded *1UP!* with Robert Caranza [Jack Johnson, Mars Volta, Stone Temple Pilots], who's very organic with his sounds and the way he records music," Norman explains. "We spent a lot more time writing and pre-producing our record at home, doing our own demos, so we were more prepared going into the studio. Plus it's our second major label record, so we're more experienced. We went to Los Angeles really focused on what we wanted to do, and we were more involved with decisions about how this record was going to sound."

Despite the mounting pressure that the new record was "gonna be a flop," Norman explains the band learned to rely on the formula that had gotten them there. "Finally, we just told ourselves, 'Who cares? Let's make a

record we're proud of, and let's have fun in the process.' There's no point in trying to make a radio record, or a record for somebody else because it just doesn't work. It was like we've always done it—that do-it-yourself, fun atmosphere, and, through that, this was one of the most honest, fun records to make."

This organic approach to writing and recording starts in the rehearsal space, as Norman explains the band's tried-and-true formula for coming up with material for *1UP!*

"It starts with a riff on the guitar, and from there we'll jam it out as a band in the basement and start structuring different parts. Then I'll start singing gibberish lyrics, trying to find a melody that compliments the music we're playing. Once I have an idea of what the chorus and verse melodies are going to be, I'll start singing by myself until I stumble across a lyric, and then pull out the rest of the idea and lyrics from that, because the hardest part is breaking into the emotion and the idea you're trying to convey with the song. Once you figure out what you want to say, then it's easy. You just fill in the blanks." V

ILLSCARLETT
MON, DEC 7 (8 PM)
STARLITE ROOM, \$23.50

FRI, DEC 4 (5 PM)
STARLITE ROOM, \$23.50
ALL AGES

The Alarm Floods of Christmas

Snyder & Associates present

with the Greenwood Singers

Featuring: Robert de Frece, Conductor
The University of Alberta
Faculty of Education Handbell Ringers

8:00 pm - Monday, December 7, 2009

McDougall United Church
10025 - 101 Street

Tickets: \$18-20 plus agency fees
TIX on the Square: (780) 420-1757
www.tixonthesquare.ca
also available at the door

www.greenwoodsingers.org



Edmonton Columbian Choirs Celebration of Christmas

Sunday, December 13, 2009
2:30pm

McDougall United Church
10025 101 Street

MC: Colin MacLean

Tickets: \$15*
(*plus applicable service charges)

Available at TIX on the Square 780.420.1757
www.tixonthesquare.ca
At the Door

www.edmontoncolumbianchoirs.ca



Columbian Choirs
Edmonton's Family of Choirs



VUEWEEKLY



12/03 + 12/04 THE UNION & SONIC 102.9 PRESENT
ILL SCARLETT
UBIQUITOUS SYNERGY SEEKER
DEC 4TH SHOW - ALL AGES

12/04 LATE SHOW AFTER ALL AGES
OH SNAP PRESENTS...
CALLING ALL JUNGLISTS

12/05
THE CANYON ROSE
OUTFIT
LIONS FOR SHEEP / DEAR (YOUR NAME HERE)

12/11
OH SNAP PRESENTS...
RUSKO
MIMOSA * DEGREE * GUESTS

12/12 JCL & SONIC 102.9 PRESENT
SLOAN
MAGNETA LANE / TV HEART ATTACK

12/18 CD RELEASE
THE SKYLIFE
JASON ZEPHON & DIRTY CITY HEARTS

12/19 DEAD END PROD PRESENTS
FAR TOO LOUD
JUST 2 GUYS & GUESTS

12/26 BOXING DAY SOUNDCLASH
MAT THE ALIEN
GREENLAW & MEGASOID

12/31 NYE 2009! 7 BARS, 80-45, 510
RAYGUN COWBOYS
OLD WIVES / SALLY'S KRACKER

01/02 7 SOUNDCLASH VIB & THIS BEAR PRESENT
MUDHONEY
SLATES / MICHAEL RAULT

12/04
FRANKIE McQUEEN
THE SHAKEDOWNS
GARRETT CRAIG / WHISKEY FACE

12/05 SPACE AGE PRESENTS...
SAGITTARIUM 3
THE SMOKEY BAMBITS / DUB AFFILIATES
JOY ONE / WADJIT / SIR THADDEUS

12/08 TROUBADOUR TUESDAYS
SILVER CREEK

12/11
BLAZING VIOLETS
TOMAS MARSH & ARMS UP

12/12 OH SNAP IN BRIXX
OH SNAP
DEGREE / BATTERY / COBRA COMMANDER /

12/13 TROUBADOUR TUESDAYS
JOEY D & JAMES RENTON
HOSTED BY MARK F. ELLIOT OF RED HORN / UNCAS

12/18 THE PROTÉGÉ PRESENTS
AN-TEN-NAE
ACID CRUNK TOUR
WITH THE PROTÉGÉ / WADJIT
SOUNDFACTOR AND PACIFIC M.O.

12/22 TROUBADOUR TUESDAYS
BERNIE J
HOSTED BY MARK F. ELLIOT OF RED HORN / UNCAS

12/29 TROUBADOUR TUESDAYS
MATT BOISVERT
HOSTED BY MARK F. ELLIOT OF RED HORN / UNCAS

01/02
GROUNDED STAR
DOUBLE SIDED

01/03
SHORT OF ABLE
ZERO SOMETHING

temple MEMBERS & GUESTS FACILITY
BEHIND STARLITE ROOM
ALL EVENTS 18+ • DOORS AT 9PM

OH SNAP!
SATURDAYS
with DEGREE, COBRA COMMANDER,
DJ BATTERY and WEEKLY GUESTS
12/10 - INFINITY IS SO REPETITIVE
FT. CPT. MOLEMAN & WUB DEEZ

WildStyle WEDNESDAYS
WWW.STARLITEROOM.CA

Distinct sensibilities

Hale Hale has its own take on self-titled debut

MIKE ANGUS

MIKEANGUS@VUEWEEKLY.COM

When you ask a band, "So, how did you guys meet?" the answer is usually fairly unexciting—something along the lines of, "Through mutual friends," or "We needed a bass player". Yet it's always an interesting set of circumstances or sense of chemistry that makes for the real story. For Edmonton indie-rock band **Hale Hale**, it's the combination of four different sensibilities that serve as a creative engine as well as a set of checks and balances.

"We did meet through a mutual friend," concedes bassist Cody McLauchlin.

"We were jamming in a garage," continues drummer Trevor Neary, "and I invited Scott [Steele, guitarist/vocalist] to join. Then Evan [Tardif, guitarist] joined and brought a dimension, this wall of sound. Our sound changed, so we recorded our new demo at Beta Sound."

The new demo is being released as a self-titled EP that the band will be celebrating at New City Likwid Lounge this Friday. The group's energetic blend of indie/garage rock and alt-rock sensibilities, combined with a directive to get your ass on the dance floor, makes for an addictive mix of heady, honest pop.



HALE HALE ROCK 'N' ROLL >> Local indie rockers roll up their influences and let the music happen // Supplied

As for the writing process, the members of Hale Hale generally like to start with a guitar idea, then let their collective influences take over.

"We're not really trying to sound like anything—it just happens. It's all of our influences," explains Neary. "Sometimes Scott will come up with a riff, and

then I'll have an idea of what I want the song to sound like. I'll use a song that already exists as an example, but then we'll end up with something that doesn't sound anything like that at all. We just keep stacking ideas on top of each other, and hopefully it meshes."

"I'm surprised how well it works," notes Steele.

McLauchlin agrees, before adding "We'll bounce ideas back and forth, like any other band, but I think we're more critical about what direction we want to go, because we want to make sure we're not doing anything too cheesy, or taking the easy way out. [Instead of] getting formulaic, we've been anything but. We have our own take on our influences."

FRI, DEC 4 (9 PM)
HALE HALE
WITH VOX HUMANA, CLAW
NEW CITY, \$8

No cover
Live music
every Saturday
from 4-6 pm

Saturday, December 5th
Jenny Allen
\$3.75 Big rock pints.

The Classical Score

VUEWEEKLY

A new voice

the veteran branches out with his own songs



PI PERRY AND HIS BAND >> PJ Perry with the musicians from his latest album // Supplied

DAVID BERRY

You wouldn't think there's much PJ Perry hasn't tried. Canada's premiere bebop saxophonist, he picked up his first instrument when he was seven, was playing in his father's big band by the time he was 14 and has spent his life hopping around Canada and the world, playing with Tommy Banks in his hometown and garnering a cabinetful of honours for his work, from a Juno to an honorary doctorate to a lifetime achievement award from the City of Edmonton to commemorate his importance in the local jazz scene.

But despite more than a half-century of playing and nine recordings to his name, there was still something fairly new for Perry to try out on his latest album, *Nota Bene*: putting some of his own songs on record.

"I've been very leery about writing tunes," Perry says with a voice as crisp and concise as his playing. "There's so many great songs that other people have written, it took me a while to get the confidence to perform my own material. I'm just naturally reticent, but that's starting to wane: my

life is a lot more conducive to writing these days."

So while *Nota Bene* still includes classics from the likes of Charlie Parker and Irving Berlin, it's about half Perry originals, sharp little bebop numbers that wear their influences on the reed while still retaining Perry's distinctive voice. And while they kept him from writing his own songs for so long, Perry says he couldn't have perfected the sound that he's developed without his long apprenticeship with the jazz classics.

"I've got this incredible bank of melodic knowledge stored in my subconscious," admits Perry. "There isn't really anything original under the sun, and the most that I can hope to achieve, I think, would be a reinvention of things in my own fashion. I'm not setting the world on fire with a brand new direction, but I've found a voice in jazz, and that will have to do: I'm a slow learner, but I feel stronger now than I've ever felt." ▽

THU, DEC 10 (8 PM)
PJ PERRY
YARBIRD 5075, \$10 - \$15

THIS GIRL, THAT BOY

<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

we heard in your hometown—on an easy feat. And there are no exceptions for *This Girl, That Boy*. The band had been together for six years before its split in 2005. After a two-year hiatus, the duo—Kennedy and guitarist Colin Kennedy—and drummer Kobi Pfaffli decided to give it another go. Kennedy says it clicked better the second time around, but it wasn't an intention to become grounded in their musical identity. "It's like a rotating door between us, players are hard to come and go, but we're on the same wavelength as ever," explains Kennedy. "Katie is our

newest edition. She was the missing puzzle piece."

Keyboardist Katie Olsson balanced the sexes of the band six months ago, and now Kennedy and husband Colin switch off bass. With a comfortable balance, *This Girl, That Boy* recorded its soon-to-be released self-titled EP.

"The changes are really realizing we are what we are," admits Kennedy. "We grew through group chemistry. It's just there, and it's so much more present than it was before we broke up. It's now like here is our music, and I hope that it speaks louder." ▽

WED, DEC 9 (7 PM)
THIS GIRL, THAT BOY
WITH COCKATOO
THE IVORY CLUB AND ERONY GRILLE
\$5 (ADVANCE) \$8 (DOOR)

Raise Your Level with Pro Tools|HD

The most powerful DAW. Period.
Track counts up to 192
Dedicated DSP = Lowest latency

Save 54% off Pro Tools|HD*

ANNEX|PRO
1-800-682-6639 x107
www.annexpro.com

digidesign

*Offer expires Dec 18/09

TICKETS
ON SALE
NOW!

jinglebellrock



AFI
CAGE THE
ELEPHANT
MAdM (MELISSA AUF DER MAUR)

AFI AUTOGRAPH
SESSION
THURSDAY DEC 17
@ WEST49 WEM

FRIDAY DECEMBER 18
SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE

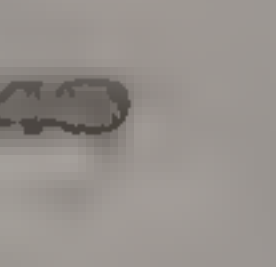
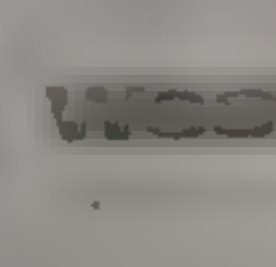
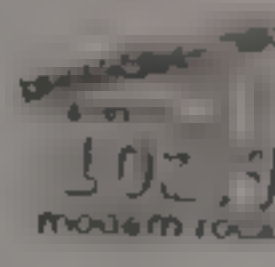
EDMONTON AB - DOORS 7 PM - ALL AGES GENERAL ADMISSION
PORTION OF EVERY TICKET SOLD TO BE DONATED TO EDMONTON YOUTH EMERGENCY SHELTER

BUY TICKETS AT **UnionEvents.COM**

ALSO AVAILABLE AT **ticketmaster.ca** ALL TICKETMASTER OUTLETS OR CHARGE BY PHONE



100% MOKE



FROM AFI
CRASH LOVE
IN STORES NOW

JINGLEBELLROCK.CA • AFIINSIDE.NET • CAGETHEELEPHANT.COM • XMADM.COM

FRIDAY JANUARY 8

STARLITE



MUD
HONEY

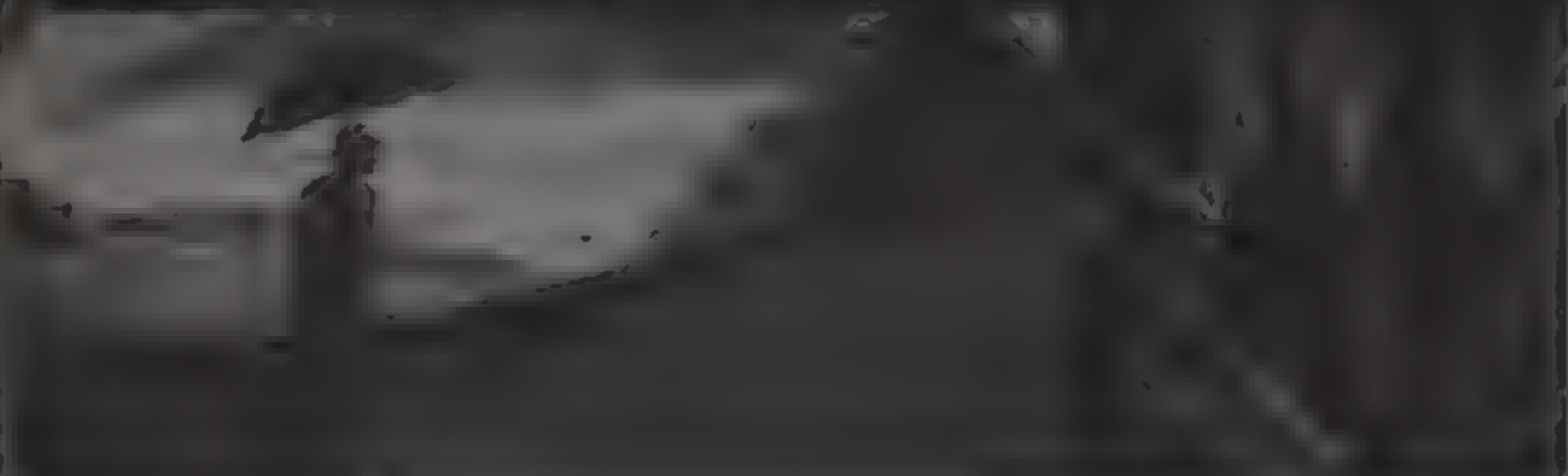
W. T. SLATES & MICHAEL RAULT

MONDAY JANUARY 11

WINSPEAR CENTRE

THE PIG FLIES AGAIN

Pink Floyd
EXPERIENCE



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13

PAWN SHOP

THE RURAL
ALBERTA ADVANTAGE

AND
THE WOODEN SKY

FRIDAY MARCH 19

STARLITE



FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND MORE INFO GO TO

FOUNDATIONCONCERTS.COM

ALBUM REVIEWS

New Sounds

Sean Nicholas Savage
Spread Free Like a Butterfly
(Arbutus)
★★★★☆



DAVID BERRY
// DAVID@VUEWEEKLY.COM

I don't want my grandson to be like me / I don't want my loved ones to be like me / I don't want my family to be like me" sings Sean Nicholas Savage on album opener "Grandson," and he spends the rest of *Spread Free Like a Butterfly* poignantly and beautifully displaying the underlying melancholy that gives rise to thoughts like that. Time and again, Edmonton ex-pat Savage will be found not only on the outside of where he'd like to be, but standing in the shoes of a man whose heady, introverted temperament got him there in the first place and may not be much of a help moving forward.

In lesser hands, this could maybe sound like so much youthful disaffection—anthems for a 17-year-old boy—but Savage is a popsmith with a remarkably natural grace. The song structures themselves are fairly simple, a restrained mix of '60s stand-up folk melodies, upbeat drum-machine pop and hints of '50s teen-idol ballads; the tune is subdued but cleverly catchy. With his voice, though, this could be a cappella and it wouldn't diminish any opinions. Savage has a voice that might best be described as a butterfly: lilting, fluttering almost chaotically, remarkably hard to pin down, but undeni-

ably a thing of beauty. It's the voice of a million longing glances, the dreams of withdrawn introverts distilled into high-proof melancholy perfection.

This form matches his subject beautifully, too. Love lost or not yet (if ever) to come dominates the songs of *Butterfly*, and Savage's voice in itself is its ideal tentative instrument. The falsetto he puts on the word "hate" in the chorus of "Heart Wish" puts the lie to just how comfortable he is about his mixed feelings: "I could hate him but where would I start" he sings of the man who took his girl away, and the maturity of letting bygones be bygones with a man who's just "trying to take care of his heart" clashes with the more basic jealousy and yearning of wanting what you had before. Savage knows better, with just a tinge of regret about that fact, and his singing leaps and dances around like his mind must be.

Though, of course, that maturity is no small part of his appeal, too. There are certainly moments of more abstract pain, but he seems in some sense doomed to understand too much to be entirely happy. Witness something like "Kisses Like a Girl," which could be a cover of a fast Leonard Cohen B-side: probably the album's best track, it's in one sense a broken-heart paean for some girl with another guy, the chorus promising "He won't treat you well / He won't rekindle your candles / He is not the true love / That you dream of." But Savage paints such a painful, particular picture of why she thinks he is—and, conversely, what Savage must be missing—it comes across almost as much love song as lament. There are points where putting yourself in someone else's shoes is bad for your health, though Savage makes it all beautiful.

There's a lot more worth getting into here, too, but that last line is maybe the best recommendation—exhortation, really—to explore for yourself. *Spread Free Like a Butterfly* is just a beautiful album in sound and sensibility, and both aspects are ignored at your own detriment. **V**

The Zolas
Tic Toc Tic
(GMA)
★★★★☆



Passionate pianist Zola's band may be, the Zolas doesn't quite match its name with variety, yet, anyway; its but *Tic Toc Tic* quickly finds a promising niche and plateaus, pumping one piano-pounder after another for its 12-song duration. The best numbers glimpse in different directions: the cal breakdown midway through "Be Ash" or the softened chorus on opener "You're Too Cool" or the punchy stop-and-go of "Marionettes" all offer some much-needed variety in sound. Vocalist Zack Grey's got a formidable set of pipes, and his unusually frank lyrics plus the energy the songs already have, hold promise for an intriguing future.

PAUL BLINOV
// PAUL@VUEWEEKLY.COM

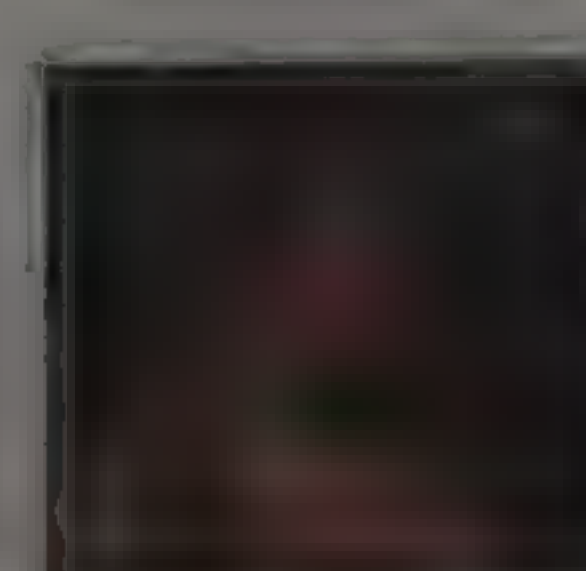
Nirvana
Live at Reading
(Geffen)
★★★★☆



Unlike past Columbia Live at Reading cash grabs—anyone who shelled out a hundred bucks for the unlistenable *With the Lights Out* box set five years ago will understand—*Live at Reading* is a release worth having. Showcasing Nirvana at the height of its power—nearly a year after *Nevermind* was released and six months before the band would record *In Utero*—the new DVD shows the band as a well-oiled machine, disregarding a few slip-ups during what were then brand-new songs. With bands like Pissed Jeans bringing that sludgy, Northwest US sound back to the forefront, *Live at Reading* serves as a timely reminder that Nirvana did it first, did it best and that, despite the way the group is sometimes shamefully grouped in with bands like Korn and System of a Down on "Modern Rock Radio," there's a power here unmatched by any band before or since.

BRYAN BIRTLES
// BRYAN@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Sacrifice
The Ones I Condemn
(Soviet Union)
★★★★☆



And may be getting the lion's share of the attention these days as far as classic Canadian metal bands go, but Sacrifice deserves a slice of the spotlight for its latest. More thrash than Anvil, Sacrifice's *The Ones I Condemn* is as solid a metal release as anything else out there—more so than a lot of today's metal. Unapologetically old-school in approach, at least as far as the growled vocals and wailing guitars go, the songs are tight and thrilling, and the sound packs a modern punch.

EDEN MUNRO
// EDEN@VUEWEEKLY.COM

listen
records & cds
10443rd - 124 street
780.732.1132
www.listenrecords.net

This weekend!
dec. 4 - 6
friday - sunday

8th pre-xmas sale & anniversary SALE!

great gift ideas:
discwasher vinyl care kit | rega turntables | tom waits: glitter & doom LP/2CD
tom waits: orphans 7LP BOX | xx: s/t LP/CD | gift certificates | t-shirts
v/a: light: on the south side LP+BOOK | v/a: ghana special 5LP/2CD
monks: black monk time 2LP/CD | kraftwerk: reissues LP/CD | neil young: reissues LP
jesus lizard reissues LP/CD | sunn o))) monoliths & dimensions 2LP | record bags
new order reissues LP/CD | you can you dig it 2xLP/2CD | magazines | & more

ALBUM REVIEWS

459

Midnight Soul Serenade is not an easy album to describe. Imagine a world where the Rolling Stones, Johnny Cash, Joe Strummerley sat down together to make *Queen of the Night*—you are at least in apologetically loud, of attitude, with a half-minute spoken-ave right in the mid-best track, "Gentle," he early Stones, has infectiousness that l. It is a truly unique orth a listen.

Aaron Jentzen
Great Inventors EP
(Independent)
★★★★☆

Assured and determined, Aaron Jentzen drifts through a soundscape built from scraps—both instrumental and at-ten's voice at times rit of Ian Curtis, Nickalists whose voices' shrouded in shad-the influences may times, Jentzen is an right, and his voice thin the songs, his ath through the mu-ver ledges and into life often leads, of-etches of the people s THE NEW TRANSI om.

BOEN MUNRO

Matt Dusk
Good News
(Royal Crown)
★★★★☆

Matt Dusk returns once again, but the jazz crooner inside has moved over to make room for a pop, uh, crooner. The jazz is still there but the pop sound is new. "On Vacation" is probably his best song, a modern big-band style song that beats the best downbeat that I've heard in a long time. "Never Gonna Get You Back" is the style once again, a modern Motown beats style. Dusk's voice is smooth and sincere, his energy and sincerity, his instrumentals never fail. His only weak spot lies in his metaphors, sinking in the wrong tracks have been that they feel cliché. I like that his style

MARIA KOTOVYCH

U2

Zooropa
(Island)
Originally released: 1993

Now that U2 has graduated to the "retirement home" of rock—big-budget arena tours that serve mainly to crank out the greatest hits—it's too easy to take pot shots at the lacklustre quality of the band's recent material or its tired persona. I mean let's face it, we are talking about grown men who still refer to each other by stage names they gave each other when they were teenagers.

EXPLORE THE ZOO >> The ultimate ambitious

challenging and rewarding is to begin looking back over U2's career and appreciate the scope, ambition and importance of its contributions to rock music.

When U2 comes up in conversations at parties or during booze-fueled bar arguments, the impassioned defenses are as valid as the naysayers who maintain Bono's "a douche" (verdict: pending). Yet there are three rules to keep in mind when arguing the merits and flaws of one of rock's truly great bands: which U2 are you talking about (note: there are at least four distinct eras), an understanding that, like the Rolling Stones, the group is responsible for its own tumble from relevance, because it was once just that good; and, lastly, you have to allow great artists to take great risks (see: Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Radiohead, the Beatles, Beck, etc.).

Which brings us to 1993's *Zooropa*. Like Young's *Trans* or Radiohead's *Kid A*, *Zooropa* is a divisive album for fans, who claim to have either completely "got it" or were left to mumble, "Uh, that's where they kinda lost me." It's a black sheep in the band's catalogue, for sure: Intended as an EP in the heady days following *Achtung Baby*'s opulent,

satirical world tour (complete with a post-Cold War carnival stage set and Bono's creepy alter-egos like the Fly and MacPhisto), *Zooropa* acts like a call-response to Achtung Baby's Euro-club discotheque sensibilities. Whereas *Achtung Baby* had tried to capture

the spirit of life on the ground during the fall of the Berlin Wall, Zoaropa attempted to articulate the exuberance and disoriented fear that came in the wake of Eastern Europe's frenzied freedom that blew the doors off in one long exhale, like half the world had been hold-

Like the title track extols, "I have no religion / And I don't know what's what / And I don't know the limit / The limit of what we've got." "Stay (Far Away, So Close)" was used in the soundtrack for Wim Wenders' film of the same name, exploring those same themes of unencumbered realities following a lifetime of barriers and feeling cut off from the freedoms and potential enjoyed by the rest of the western world, embodied in the golden angel statue atop the Berlin Victory Column. There's a dizzying excitement about the record, but the subtext admits to the stark reality of the morning after—that a change for the better is still change, and along with it come new realities that are as discomfiting as they are promising.

Musically, U2 had fully embraced the growing role of technology in music, thanks to its innovative approach and integration of electronica and theatrical pop sensibilities. While *Joshua Tree* is arguably a perfect record and *Unforgettable Fire* their most courageous and engaging, like it or not, *Zooropa* represents U2 at its most ambitious, prolific and relevant. **V**

HAIKU

Goodbye Beatdown
Whatchagwando?
(Independent)

Rap/rock from BC
They put the high in hybrid
Say things like "kick it"

Amy Heffernan Being Awesome (Independent)

Fort Mac to LA
She does, in fact, seem awesome
Party girl with pipes

Rick Wakeman
The Six Wives of Henry VIII: Live
(Eagle)

Sort of like paintball
It's for huge fucking losers
Yet it's pretty fun

Chuck Prophet
¡Let Freedom Ring!
(Yep Roc)

Gritty bluesy rock
If Tom Petty had a sack
Instead of a hat

Jana Mashonee
New Moon Born
(Miss Molly)

Empowerment pop
Yes, we can do anythinggggggg
If we only ... zzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz

Wide Mouth Mason
Live! Montreux, Switzerland
(WMM)

A live testament
In their prime they were a force
Alas, what goes up

Lucky 13
since 1981
10551-82 ave.
Edmonton, Alberta
www.lucky-13.ca

SIN
CLUB 3 DAYS
DRINK WANCIE 125 NAUGHTY

\$3 Highballs
\$4 Shooters
\$115 Bottle service
Mike Tomas spinning on the 1's and 2's



17

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE BLACK DOG'S
17TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!
MONDAY DECEMBER 7TH, 2009**

FRANKIE MCQUEEN

WITH GUESTS

ONE OF CALGARY'S BEST KEPT SECRETS

THE SHAKEDOWNS

GARRETT CRAIG
\$WHISKEYFACE

FRI DEC 4TH

10030 102ST 9PM \$12 NO 11

PREVUE // DANYLUK & CARD

Making space

Danyluk & Card's songwriting continues to evolve

MIKE ANGUS

// MIKEANGUS@VUEWEEKLY.COM

Cory Danyluk and Sarah Card, a.k.a. Danyluk & Card, are putting in the final few stops on a tour promoting their most recent CD, *Too Much to Dream*—a tour that started seven months ago and has seen them criss-cross the country, all the way from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island. If Danyluk & Card gain inspiration from viewing life through the windshield, as the group's website maintains, then the duo's certainly not in danger of running out of material anytime soon. Having met 11 years ago at an open stage on Whyte Avenue, Card explains to me over the phone how things continue to evolve for the duo.

"Over the past years, we've pared it down to a duo—Cory's songwriting has really evolved to work well with that format. We're a lot more stripped down, featuring the two of us, and having the songs as a very strong highlight, rather than big instrumentation. In a lot of ways, I've seen Cory try to strip it down, not overcomplicate things. The more he's gathered influences, and seen different songwriters, the more he's grown as a songwriter. The songs he's writing lately are increasingly musical."

Considering that the members don't sit down and write together, I ask how



RUNNIN' DOWN A DREAM >> Cory Danyluk and Sarah Card have been touring the latest record, *Too Much to Dream*, for seven months and many long miles // Supplied

the musical relationship has evolved given Danyluk's own development as a songwriter.

"As we've been playing together with a stripped-down sound, there's a lot more room to play and explore and become a real part of the songs. And because I watch him write a lot of these songs, I've become mentally closer to them, and by the time they're reaching the stage, they mean a lot to me, and I think that helps us meld together. People say we have a strong chemistry on stage."

"And I think he takes the violin into account when he's writing, too," Card explains of the task of arranging the songs once they're written. "I've seen an influence on the development of the song as he writes them, melodically keeping the violin in mind." **V**

FRI, DEC 4 (7 PM)

DANYLUK & CARD

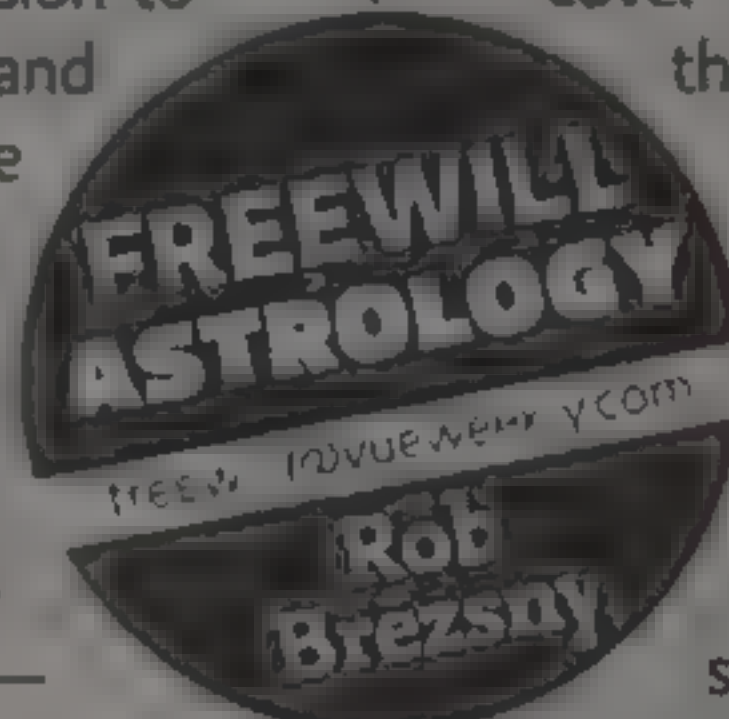
WITH RE GIFTED

THE ARTERY, \$15

HOROSCOPE

ARIES (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

When Carolee Schneeman was a kid, her extravagant adoration of nature earned her the nickname "mad pantheist." Later, during her career as a visual artist, she described her relationship with the world this way: "I assume the senses crave sources of maximum information, that the eye benefits by exercise, stretch, and expansion towards materials of complexity and substance." I hope that you're attracted to that perspective right now, Aries. To be in most productive alignment with the cosmic rhythms, you should be in a state of nearly ecstatic openness, hungry to be stretched—like a mad pantheist.



TAURUS (Apr 20 – May 20)

"Dear Rob: Last night my son and I were stargazing. When we focused on the constellation Cassiopeia, an owl started hooting. Then a brilliant shooting star zipped by as a huge bat flew right over our heads. Was this a bad omen? Bats are creepy—associated with vampires. And in Greek mythology Cassiopeia got divine punishment because she bragged that she and her daughter were more beautiful than the sea god's daughters. But I don't know, maybe this blast of odd events was a good omen. Owls are symbols of wisdom and shooting stars are lucky, right? What do you think? Are we blessed or cursed? —Spooked Taurus." Dear Spooked: The question of whether it's good or bad luck is irrelevant. Here's what's important: you Tauruses are in a phase when the hidden workings of things will be shown to you—the mysterious magic that's always bubbling below the surface but that is usually not visible.

GEMINI (May 21 – Jun 20)

The week ahead will be a ripe time to pull off magic reversals. May I suggest that you try to transform dishwater greys into sparkling golds? Or how about recycling the dead energy of a lost cause in such a way as to generate raw fuel for a fresh start? I'm confident, Gemini, that you'll be able to discover treasure hidden in the trash, and that you'll find a way to unleash the creative zeal that has been trapped inside polite numbness. Now ponder this riddle, please: Do you think there's any mystical significance in the fact that the word "stressed" is "desserts" spelled backwards?

CANCER (Jun 21 – Jul 22)

Lately you remind me of the person Robert Hass describes in his poem "Time and Materials": "someone falling down and getting up and running and falling and getting up." I'm sending you my compassion for the times you fall down, and my admiration for the times you get up, and my excitement for the times you run. It has probably become clear to you by now that the falling down isn't a shameful thing to be cursed, but rather is an instrumental part of the learning process that is teaching you marvelous secrets about getting back up and running.

LEO (Jul 23 – Aug 22)

"I burn for no reason, like a lantern in daylight," writes poet Joseph Lease. I think that's a succinct formulation of one of your central issues, Leo. Burning for no reason, like a lantern in the daylight, can be the cause of either failure or success for you, depending on subtle differences

of emphasis. This is how it can be failure: When you're mindlessly and wastefully burning through your prodigious reserves of fuel without any concern for the benefits it may provide you and others. This is how it can be success: When you are exuberant and self-disciplined in shining your light and radiating your warmth just because it feels so good and so right and so healthy, and without any thought about whether it's "useful" to anyone.

VIRGO (Aug 23 – Sep 22)

In one of his short poems, John Averill (twitter.com/wiremesa) describes a scene that I think captures the essence of your current astrological omens: "Today is the day of the photo of moonrise over Havana in a book on a shelf in the snowbound cabin." Here's a clue about what it means: the snowbound cabin is where you are right now in your life. The moonrise over Havana is where you could be early in 2010. How do you get there from here?

LIBRA (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

An estuary is a bay where the salt water of a sea mixes with the fresh water of rivers. These days you remind me of such a place. You are two-toned, Libra. You're dual-purpose and double-tracked. You're a hybrid blend of the yes and the no, the give and the take, the extravagant and the traditional. And somehow this has been working out pretty well for you. You're not so much a dysfunctional contradiction as an interesting juxtaposition. You're not being crushed by a squeeze of opposites so much as you're getting massaged by the oscillating throbs of complementary influences. Keep doing what you've been doing, only more so.

SCORPIO (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

Big shiny egos with flashy tricks may be mucking around in everyone's business, calling narcissistic attention to themselves as they pretend to do noble deeds. Meanwhile, I hope you'll be doing the hard, detailed work that must be done to serve the greater good—quietly and unpretentiously improving people's lives without demanding major tribute. That approach will stir up some sleek, silky karma that will come in handy when you undertake the building of your masterpiece in 2010.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

"Dear Rob: I love to be proven wrong. That's not an ironic statement. I actually get excited and feel creative when I acquire new information that shows me I've been operating under a misunderstanding. One of my very favorite life moments occurs when I am convincingly liberated from a negative opinion I've been harbouring about someone. As you can tell, I'm quite proud of this quality. The way I see it, emotional wealth and psychological health involve having so much self-respect that I don't need to be right all the time. —Sagittarian Freedom Fighter." Dear Freedom Fighter: Thanks for your testimony. The capacity you described is one that many Sagittarians will be poised to expand in 2010. And this is an excellent week for them to start getting the hang of it.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

In an early version of the tale of Pinocchio, friendly woodpeckers chiseled his nose back to its original size after it had grown enormous from his incorrigible lying. From a metaphorical perspective,

Capricorn, a comparable development may soon occur in your own life. A benevolent (if somewhat rough) intervention akin to the woodpeckers' assistance will shrink an overgrown, top-heavy part of your attitude, allowing you to proceed to the next chapter of your story with streamlined grace.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

"There is light enough for those who wish to see," wrote French philosopher Blaise Pascal, "and darkness enough for those of the opposite disposition." I'm hoping you will align yourself with the first group in the coming week, Aquarius. More than ever before, what you choose to focus on will come rushing in to meet you, touch you, teach you, and prompt you to respond. Even if all the smart people you know seem to be drunk on the darkness, I encourage you to be a brave rebel who insists on equal time for the light.

PISCES (Feb 19 – Mar 20)

White dwarfs are small and extremely dense stars. They're typically no bigger than the Earth but as heavy as the sun. You currently have a resemblance to one of those concentrated balls of pure intensity. I have rarely seen you offering so much bang for the buck. You are as flavourful as chocolate mousse, as piercing as the scent of eucalyptus, as lustrous as a firework display on a moonless night. Personally I'm quite attracted to your saucy and zesty emanations, and I think most people with strong egos will be. But some underachievers with lower self-esteem may regard you as being more like astringent medicine. My advice: gravitate toward those who want you to be powerful. **V**

EVENTS WEEKLY

FOR YOUR FREE LISTINGS TO 780.426.2889
OR EMAIL LISTINGS@VUEWEEKLY.COM
DEADLINE: FRIDAY AT 3PM

CLUBS + LECTURES

AIKIKAI AIKIDO CLUB • 10330-87 Ave, Old Strathcona Community League • Japanese Martial Art of Aikido • Every Tue 7:30-9:30pm; Thu 6-8pm

ART WORKOUT WEDNESDAYS • Enterprise Sq, Jasper Ave, 103 St • Shoppers Relief: Drawing, Card Deck with Virginia Stephen. Bring your mind and body back to equilibrium with these reflective drawing activities • Dec 16, noon • Free

AUGUSTANA DISTINGUISHED LECTURES • Atrium, Augustana University College, 925-50 St • Christian Orthodoxy and Modern Science: Complementarity?, consultation with László Pihlak • Thu, Dec 3, 3:30-5pm • Free

AWA 12-STEP SUPPORT GROUP • Braeside Presbyterian Church, 611 N. door, 6 Bernard Dr, Bishop St, St Winston Churchill Ave, St Albert • For adult children of alcoholic and dysfunctional families • Every Mon, 7:30pm

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION • Suite 800, 10045-111 St • 780.414.6311 • Family support drop-in group for those who are supporting an adult family member living with a mental illness • Every Wed, 6:30-8:30pm

KEEPING OUR COOL DURING CLIMATE CHANGE • Telus Centre, Rm 150, U of A • The Scale of the Problem, the Path to the Solution: Review of mental Research and Studies Centre (ERSC) Energy Futures Lecture Series with Dr Andrew Weaver • Thu, Dec 3, 6:30-9pm • Donation

DEMOCRATIZE THE HALLS • Ivory Club, 10304-111 St • 780.424.1784 • Open house and holiday social with live music hosted by the Edmonton Centre Provincial NDP • Dec 8, 7-10pm • Free

DIAMOND LECTURE SERIES • Royal Alberta Museum Theatre, 12845-102 Ave • 780.453.9100 • The Art and Beauty of Diamonds with Gabriel Felkowski, Master Diamond Cutter, Gahaville Diamonds • Dec 10, 7pm • Free

EDMONTON ESPERANTO SOCIETY • 10025-102A Ave, Rm 1812B • 780.712.6117 • Fri, 12:30pm

FERTILITY AWARENESS CHARTING CIRCLE • Block 1911 Café, 10361-82 Ave • fertilityawareness-chartingcircle.org • Meets 1st Wed each month, through to Apr; 6:30-8:30pm • Donation of \$5

GREAT EXPEDITIONS HOSTEL TRAVEL • Hostelling International, 10647-81 Ave • 780.454.6216 • Christmas potluck, bring drinks, potluck dish and favourite slides (for others to guess location). Turkey provided for a donation • Dec 14, 6:30pm

HEBREW SACRED CHANT, RITUAL AND REFLECTION • Westwood Unitarian Church, 11135-65 Ave • 780.438.3757 • Journey Through Darkness—Finding Meaning During the Season of Light: with Rebecca and Matthew van der Giessen • Sun, Dec 6, 3:30-6:30pm • \$10 donation

HOME—Energising Spiritual Community for Passionate Living • Garneau/Ashbourne Assisted Living Place, 11148-84 Ave • Home: Blends music, drama, creativity and reflection on sacred texts to energise you for passionate living • Every Sun 3-5pm

INFORMATION FOR TEMPORARY FOREIGN WORKERS • Santa Maria Goretti Community Hall, 11950-90 St • 780.414.7709 ext 277 • Speakers will discuss: the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program; and overview of TFW programs, TFW trends and recent changes to TFW regulations • Dec 5, 2-5pm • Free

I AM A MONUMENT • Grant McEwan Downtown, 105 St Bldg, Rm 5042 • 780.426.2889 • Professor Aron Vinegar will be talking about his paper Learning from Las Vegas • Thu, Dec 3, 6:45pm (door) • \$5 (MADE member)/\$10 (non-member) at door

LENDRUM POTTERY GROUP • Lendrum Community League, 11335-57 Ave • Christmas sale of pottery • Sat, Dec 5, 10am-3pm

MEN'S BREAKFAST—THE ROAD TO RECOVERY • McDougall United Church, 10025-101 St • mcdougallunited.com • The Road to Recovery, The Fellowship Society with speakers Don Smith, E.D. and Rev Don Mayne • Sat, Dec 5, 9-10:30am • \$8; pre-reg: 780.426.1888

PHILOSOPHER'S CAFÉ SERIES • Steeps Urban Tea House, College Plaza, 11116-82 Ave • Prayer and Mental Sanity with Archbishop Lazar and Tim Parker, presented by the Chester Ronning Centre • Sat, Dec 5, 1-3:30pm • Free

RETHINKING CHRISTMAS: MOVING TOWARD SUSTAINABLE SIMPLICITY • Providence Renewal Centre, 3005-119 St • 780.701.1854 • Presentation by Maria Kruszewski • Sat, Dec 5, 10am-3pm • \$45 (incl lunch)

SUGARSWING DANCE CLUB • Orange Hall, 10335-84 Ave • 780.604.7572 • Swing Dance at Sugar Foot Stamp: beginner lesson followed by dance every Sat, 8pm (door)

SUPPORT FOR THOSE WITH BIPOLAR DISORDER AND SUPPORT PEOPLE • Suite 201

10621-100 Ave • 780.452.4661: 1st and 3rd Thu each month, 7-9pm • Rm 0653, Grey Nuns Hospital: Every Thu; 7-9pm; Maxine 780.451.1755

TOURETTE SYNDROME • Academy of King Edward, 8525-101 St, NW door • 1.866.844.9764 • Support meetings for parents of TS kids, and TS adults • 1st Wed every month, 7pm

VEGETARIANS OF ALBERTA • Riverdale Community Hall, 9231-100 Ave • Vegan/Vegetarian Potluck: Bring a vegetarian/vegan dish for 6 people, serving spoon, plate, utensils, mug, copy of recipe • Sun, Dec 13, 5:30-7pm

WELCOME TO THE REEL WORLD • Telus Centre Auditorium 150, U of A • Global issues film and speaker series featuring the film Boys, Toys, and the Big Blue Marble • Dec 8 • Free; E: elandria@international.ualberta.ca

WOMEN IN BLACK • In Front of the Old Strathcona Farmers' Market • Silent vigil the 1st and 3rd Sat, 10-11am, each month, stand in silence for a world without violence

COMEDY

CENTURY CASINO • 13103 Fort Rd • 780.481.9857 • Shows start at 8pm Thu-Sat and late show at 10:30pm on Fri-Sat; \$12 (Thu)/\$19 (Fri/Sat) • Darcy Michael; Dec 3-5 • Jay Brown; Dec 10-12

COMEDY FACTORY • Gateway Entertainment Centre, 34 Ave, Calgary Tr • Thu, 8:30pm; Sat, 8pm and 10pm • Left Skyline; Dec 3-5 • Steven Moore; Dec 10-12

COMIC STRIP • Bourbon St, WEM • 780.483.5999 • Wed-Fri, Sun 8pm; Fri-Sat 10:30pm • Hit or Miss Monday: Mon, Dec 7, Dec 14 • Paul Brown and Friends: Tue, Dec 8, Dec 15 • John Wessling, Kelly Dakus, and Vince Fluke; Dec 9-13

DRUID • 11606 Jasper Ave • 780.710.2119 • Comedy Night: Hosted by Lars Callicou • Every Sun, 9pm

FESTIVAL PLACE • 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park • The Dance Party of Newfoundland, sketch comedy group • Dec 11, 7:30pm • \$32 (table)/\$30 (box)/\$26 (theatre) at Festival Place box office

HYDEAWAY—Jekyll and Hyde • 10209-100 Ave • 780.426.5381 • Comedy show every Tue, 9pm • \$5 (door)

LAUGH SHOP—Whyte • 2nd Fl, 10368-82 Ave • 780.476.1010 • John Win; Dec 3-6 • Amateur night with Rob Brackenridge; Dec 8-9 • Rob Brackenridge; Dec 10-13

NEWCITY LIQUID LOUNGE • 10081 Jasper Ave • Newcity Upstairs Underground Comedy Night presents: lies the state told you: Disestablishmentarianism comedy night • 1st Tue every month, 9pm

WUNDERBAR • 8120-101 St • Hangtime! hosted by Mike Robertson and Arlen Konopaki • Tue, Dec; every second Thu, 9:30pm

QUEER

AFFIRM SUNNYBROOK—Red Deer • Sunnybrook United Church, Red Deer • 403.347.6073 • Affirm welcome LGBTQ people and their friends, family, and allies meet the 2nd Tue, 7pm, each month

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP • A social group for bi-curious and bisexual women every 2nd Tue of the month, 8pm • groups.yahoo.com/group/bwedmonton

BOOTS BAR AND LOUNGE • 10242-106 St • 780.423.5014 • 2nd Thu: Illusions Social Club • 3rd Wed: Edmonton O Society • 2nd Tue: Edmonton Rainbow Business Association • Every Fri: Philosophy Café • Fri and Sat DJ SeXXy Sean 10-3 • Long Weekend Sundays feature the Stardust Lounge with Miss Bianca and Vanity Fair

BUDDYS NITE CLUB • 11215B Jasper Ave • 780.488.7736 • DJ Dust 'n' Time; Mon 9pm • DJ Arrow Chaser; Tue 9pm • DJ Dust 'n' Time; Wed 9pm, no cover before 10pm • DJ Arrow Chaser; Fri 8pm, no cover before 10pm • DJ Earth Shiver 'n' Quake; Sat 8pm, no cover before 10pm • DJ Bobby Beats; Sun 9pm • Drag Queen Performance Show, Sun, no cover before 10pm

EDMONTON PRIME TIMERS (EPT) • Unitarian Church of Edmonton, 10804-119 St • A group of older gay men who have common interests meet the 2nd Sun, 2:30pm, for a social period, short meeting and guest speaker, discussion panel or potluck supper. Special interest groups meet for other social activities throughout the month. E: edmontonpt@yahoo.ca • primetimersww.org/edmonton

GLBT SPORTS AND RECREATION • teamedmonton.ca • Women's Drop-In Recreational Badminton; Oliver School Gym, 10227-118 St; 780.465.3620; Wed, 6-7:30pm • Bootcamp; Lynnwood Elementary School at 15451-84 Ave; Mon, 7-8:15pm; bootcamp@teamedmonton.ca • Bowling; Gateway Lanes, 100, 3414 Gateway Blvd; Sat, 5-7pm; bowling@teamedmonton.ca • Curling; Mon, 7:15-9:15pm; Granite Curling Club; 780.461.5942 • Running; Sun, Tue, Thu; running@teamedmonton.ca • Swimming; NAIT pool, 11762-106 St; Tue, 8-9pm, Thu, 7:30-8:30pm; swimming@teamedmonton.ca • Volleyball; Tue Recreational: Mother Teresa Elementary School at 9008-105A, 8-10pm; Thu Intermediate at Amiskwaciy Academy, 101 Airport Rd, 8-10pm; recvolleyball@teamedmonton.ca; volleyball@teamedmonton.ca • YOGA (Hatha): Free Yoga every Sun, 2-3:30pm; Koresone Fitness, 203, 10575-115 St, yoga@teamedmonton.ca

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB: CROSSDRESSERS • 780.387.3343 • meet monthly • Info: groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton_illusions/

INSIDE/OUT • U of A Campus • Campus-based organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified and queer (LGBTQ) faculty, graduate student,

academic, straight allies and support staff • 3rd Thu each month (fall/winter terms): Speakers Series. E: kwells@ualberta.ca

LIVING POSITIVE • 404, 10408-124 St • edmliving-positive.ca • 1.877.975.9448/780.488.5768 • Confidential peer support to people living with HIV • Tue, 7-9pm: Support group • Daily drop-in, peer counselling

MADELINE SANAM FOUNDATION Faculté St Jean, Rm 3-18, 780.490.7332 • Program for HIV-AID'S prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and other African languages • 3rd and 4th Sat, 9am-5pm each month • Free (member)/\$10 (membership) • Pre-register

MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB • geocities.com/makingwaves_edm • Recreational/competitive swimming. Socializing after practices • Every Tue, Thu

PLAY NIGHTCLUB • 10220-103 St • Open Thu, Fri, Sat with DJs Alex Brown and Eddie Toonflash

PRIDE CENTRE OF EDMONTON • 9540-111 Ave • 780.488.3234 • pridecentreofedmonton.org • Open Tue-Fri 1-10pm, Sat 2-6:30pm • LGBT Seniors Drop-in: Every Tue/Thu, 2-4pm • CA: Thu (7pm) • Suit Up and Show Up: AA big book study group every Sat, noon • Youth Understanding Youth: Up to 25 years, support and social group every Sat, 7-9pm; yuy@shaw.ca • Womonspace: Board meeting 1st Sun every month, 10:30am-12:30pm • Trans Education/Support Group: Meet the 1st and 3rd Sun, 2-4pm, every month; albertatrans.org • Men Talking with Pride: Sun 7pm; facilitator: Rob Wells robwells780@hotmail.com • HIV Support Group: 2nd Mon every month, 7pm • Transgender, Transsexual, Intersex and Questioning (TTIQ) Alliance: Support meeting 2nd Tue every month, 7:30pm • Transgender, Transsexual, Intersex and Questioning. Education, advocacy and support for men, women and youth • Free professional counselling every Wed except the 1st Wed each

month; 7-10pm; appt encouraged, drop-ins welcome • YouthSpace: drop-in for LGBTQ for youth up to 25; Tue-Sat, 3-7pm

PRISM BAR • 10524-101 St • 780.990.0038 • Wed: Free Pool; Karaoke, 9pm-midnight • Thu: Prism Pool League; 7-11:30pm • Fri: Steak Nites; 5-9pm; DJ at 9:30pm

ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH • 10209-123 St • 780.482.1587 • Soul OUTing: an LGBT-focused alternative worship • 2nd Sun every month, 7pm; worship Sun, 10:30am; people of all sexual orientations welcome. LGBT monthly book club and film night. E: jravernscroft@rwuc.org

ST PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH • 11526-76 Ave • 780.436.1555 • People of all sexual orientations are welcome • Every Sun (10am worship)

WOMONSPACE • 780.482.1794 • womonspace.ca, womonspace@gmail.com • A Non-profit lesbian social organization for Edmonton and surrounding area. Monthly activities, newsletter, reduced rates included with membership. Confidentiality assured

WOODYS • 11713 Jasper Ave • 780.488.6557 • Karaoke with Nathan; Mon 8pm • Martini Mondays; 3pm • You Don't Know Game Show with Patrick and Nathan; Thu 9pm • Long Island Iced Tea; Thu 3pm • Karaoke with Morgan; Wed 7pm • Karaoke with Kevin; Sun 8pm

YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH • yuyedm.ca • Meets every Sat, 7-9pm • E: info@yuyedm.ca, T: 780.248.1971

SPECIAL EVENTS

A CHRISTMAS PAST • Rutherford House, 1153 Saskatchewan Dr • 780.427.3995 • Silent auction featuring hand-knit stockings by local artists; proceeds benefit the UFind: Poverty charity • Sun, Dec 6 and 13, 12-4pm

ETS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOURS • Route includes

Downtown, Candy Cane Lane, and Legislative Grounds • Dec 13-19 • Departs from the west side of City Hall at Transit Stop #1364, 100 St between 103 and 103A Ave at 6pm, 6:15pm and 6:30pm nightly; additional 5:45pm departures on Sat and Sun • \$3 each; limit of 8 per person at TTX on the Square; free for child 5 yrs and under, but must sit on adult's lap (no strollers)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES • City Hall, City Room • Nothing About Us Without Us, Erin Isfeld (MC) with CTV and Paralympian Ross Norton • Thu, Dec 3, 10am-1:30pm

JINGLE ON • 2nd Level Pedway, Commerce Place, Manulife Place, Edmonton City Centre • edmonton-downtown.com • 12th Annual Indoor Santa Claus Parade • Sun, Dec 6, 10am-noon

LETTERS TO SANTA • Train Station, Grain Elevator, 4A Meadowview Dr, St Albert • Holiday activities • Sat, Dec 12, 12-4pm • Free

LUMINARIA • Devonian Botanic Garden • devonian.ualberta.ca • Thousands of candles light the paths of the Kurimoto Japanese Garden. Bonfires, cider, a cappella singers • Dec 5-6, 5-9pm • \$10 (adult)/\$5 (child 7-12)/free (child 6 and under)

MAKE IT! THE HANDMADE REVOLUTION • Aviation Hangar, Alberta Aviation Museum 11410 Kingsway Ave • MakeItEdmonton.com • Dec 11-13 • \$5 (door)

MINKHA WOMEN'S KNITTING COOPERATIVE OF BOLIVIA • Windsor Park Community Hall, 11840-87 Ave • Open house, handknit alpaca sweaters • Sat, Dec 5, 9am-3pm

WOMONSPACE • Bellevue Community Hall, 7308 112 Ave • Festive Dinner and Dance • Sat, Dec 12, 7-8:30pm (dinner), 9-12m (dance) • \$25 (member)/\$30 (guest) at Prism Bar, Earth's General Store

NEW CITY UPCOMING·UPCOMING·UPCOMING

friday december 4th



blue jay and nazz nomad

I ♥ 80s DANCEPARTY

NEW CITY SUBURBS

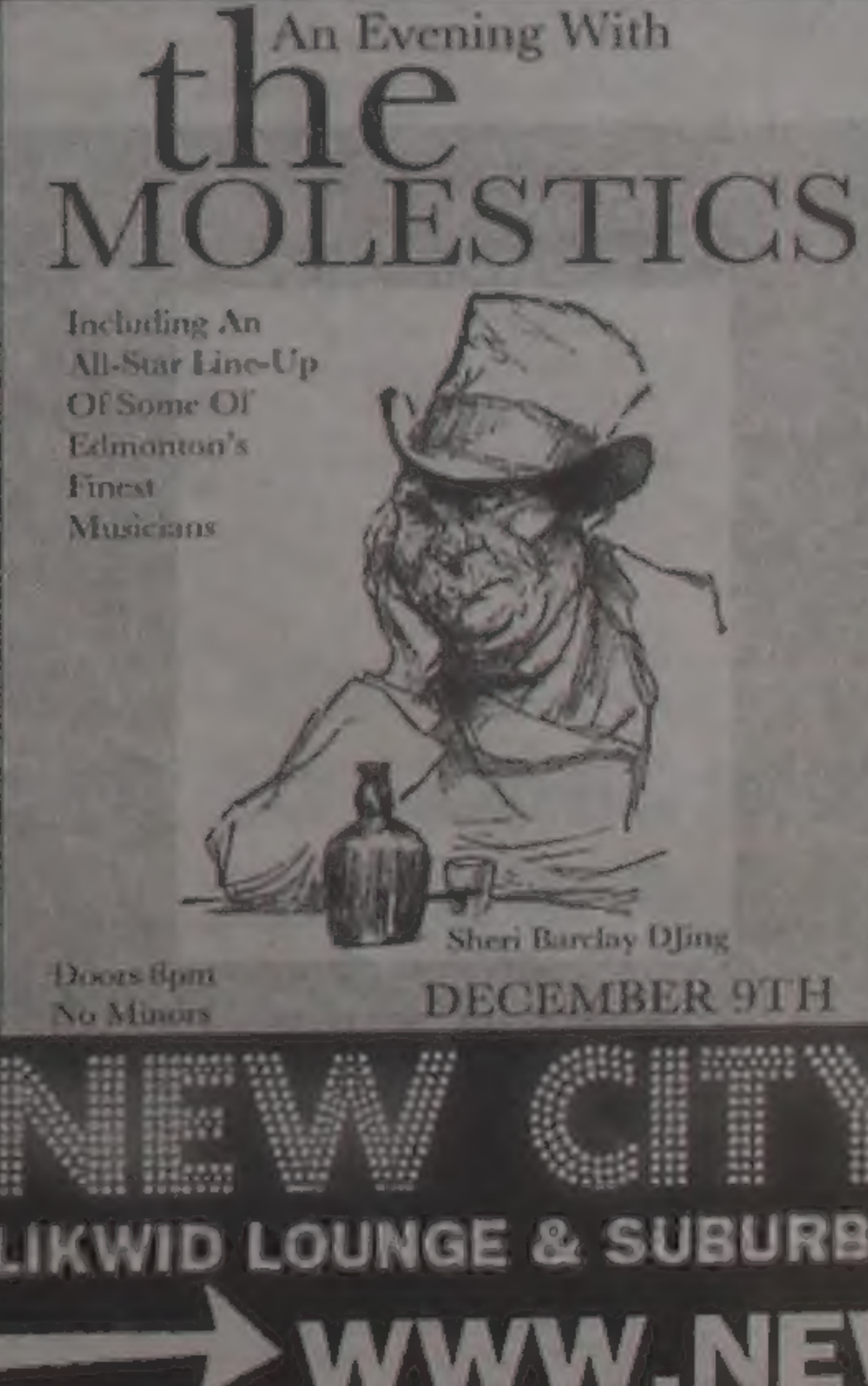
10061 JASPER AVE

FIVE MIX NO MINORS DOORS 9PM

An Evening With

the MOLESTICS

Including An All-Star Line-Up Of Some Of Edmonton's Finest Musicians



Doors 8pm No Minors

Sheri Barclay DJing

DECEMBER 9TH

NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE & SUBURBS

WWW.NEWCITYCOMPOUND.COM

MISFITS

WITH GUESTS

NO PROBLEM

WED DECEMBER 9TH

NO MINORS

NEW CITY SUBURBS

10081 JASPER AVENUE

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT NEW CITY, MEGATUNES, FREECLOUD & BLACKBYRD MYOOZIK

On-Line Tix Available At www.etickets.to/buy/?e=3805

Tickets Available At New City, Megatunes, Blackbyrd, Freecloud And On-Line At www.etickets.to/buy/?e=3547

SCREECHING WEASEL

OLD WIVES & THE SPIN-OFFS

DOORS 7PM SHOW 8PM • FOLLOWS BY PUNK KARA KING AT 12PM

DECEMBER 11

NO MINORS DOORS 7PM




Getting personal with Buck

I interviewed porn star and educator Buck Angel two weeks ago at a bathhouse before his final engagement as part of the Exposure Festival. In the first part of our chat we discussed the intricacies of his films—the second half gets a bit more personal.

VUE WEEKLY: You're the only recognizable actor of your ilk at this point but you've said that you want to see more transmen adult actors.

BUCK ANGEL: Of course! The whole point of me starting this is to make it into a genre and it is not a genre. A genre is something that has a whole bunch of other people. In a sense I wanted to help guys have a really good body image about themselves. I have a very specific visual of how I want my porn to look, how I want the guys that come under the Buck Angel label to look. There's other people producing stuff with some trans guys

in it, but my vision was muscular guys. That's what I envisioned my female-to-male transsexual porn to look like. I'm not saying that's how it all has to look, but that's the Buck Angel vision. But I haven't found any guys comfortable enough to really put themselves out there like I have.

VW: It seems unfair that just because you're the only one doing female-to-male porn that you're expected to encompass everything.

BA: Thank you, I appreciate you saying that. They expect it from me. I'm a weird person about communities—I feel like communities put you in a box, which is my whole message: that community tends to put people too much in a restrictive box that is not fair. They forget that they've been put in that box by society. They need to back up a minute and realize that's not the point of my work. The point of my

work is to bring everybody, whether you're a gay woman, gay man, small person, to feel good about yourself no matter what anybody tells you.

VW: You're making the transition now from porn actor to educator. Why education?

BA: Because porn limits me. People in the mainstream industry wouldn't look at me because I'm a porn star and there's this weird thing that people have about people who work in the adult industry. I thought, "OK, my message is bigger than that." I had a lot to say, so I needed to do something that put me in a different light, which was education. I'm speaking at Yale in February. I thought, "Yes, I do have a message, and yes, it is good for me to go to schools and speak and go to festivals like this and speak my message and broaden my message to people who might not be into my porn, which is totally fine, but want to know about me and want to get something positive."

VW: Your family was really supportive of you as a boy when you were growing up. That's very uncommon, as I'm sure you know. How do you think that affected who you came to be?

BA: My family totally raised me as a boy. Completely, totally cool. But I was a tomboy. It's totally cool until a certain age. Fifteen, I started going through puberty, kind of late, got my period, boobs. Then my family started freaking out like, "Oh gosh, we can't treat him like a boy anymore, we've got to treat him sort of like a girl." That was a pivotal point in my life that everything started crashing down for me. That's when the drugs started coming, the drinking, self-hatred, suicide attempts, cutting myself. Just really bad for many, many years. My family disowned me because of the drug addiction. I wasn't with my family for many years, until I realized I was a transsexual and the minute I started my sex change, my voice started changing, little things started changing and I thought, "Oh gosh, I've got to tell my parents." I'd just started getting back with my parents because I got sober, two years sober. I called my mom and I'm like, "Mom, I just wanted to let you know that I'm

having a sex change to a man" and my mom said to me, "You know what, if that's what's going to make you happy, we totally support you." It makes me emotional even now. That was a huge, pivotal point in my reconnecting with them and now I have an amazing relationship with my parents. They totally call me their son. My parents, these middle-class American, regular, Republicans are totally OK with me being a transsexual man.

VW: You have a webshow, *Bucking the System*.

BA: It has nothing to do with my porn. It's about Buck Angel talking about issues of sexuality, gender. And my wife is a sign-language interpreter, so I put her in the show, because I have this person here who can sign and I can reach a whole other community, people that are pretty much put to the side because they're deaf. It made me really happy because deaf people are writing me all the time now and telling me how grateful they are because they feel so alienated. It's just a way for me to reach out to another audience that doesn't necessarily watch my porn but really respect what I have to say and who I am. **V**

CLASSIFIEDS

FAX YOUR FREE LISTINGS TO 780.426.2889
OR EMAIL LISTINGS@VUEWEEKLY.COM
DEADLINE: FRIDAY AT 3PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Bridget, out of a deck of 52 playing cards you have selected the 5 of spades

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BIGGEST HEALTH DISCOVERY IN 20 YEARS!

This patented product will be the next BILLION DOLLAR GIANT!
Great opportunity to improve your health and wealth!
For more info call Ken 780-454-6971
www.maxtrax4u.com/kenneths

EDUCATIONAL

FILM AND TV ACTING
Learn from pro's how to act in Film and TV
Full-time training.
1-866-231-8232
www.vadastudios.com

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FOOD BANK

HELP WANTED

Cook/Thai cuisine. Must be talented and experienced at cooking Thai recipes. please e-mail resume to camster1964@gmail.com

CHANGE YOUR LIFE! TRAVEL, TEACH ENGLISH: We train you to teach 1000's of jobs around the world. Next in-class or ONLINE by correspondence. Jobs guaranteed. 7712-104 St. Call for info pack 1.888.270.2941

The Cutting Room is looking for Assistants and Stylists
Please drop off your resume at 10536-124 Street

Drivers wanted: \$15/hr, Wed (night), Thu (day), perm/PT. Must have mini-van or truck. Looking for reliable, responsible person. Ph 780.907.0570

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION

MODAL MUSIC INC. 780.221.3115
Quality music instruction since 1981.
Guitarist, Educator.
Graduate of GMCC music program

Guitar lessons available
LEARN ROCK, FOLK, COUNTRY, BLUES
\$20/hour
Contact Justin T: 780. 760.7284
E: Justin.wayne.shaw@gmail.com

Music lessons:
Guitar, bass, banjo, Ukele
Call Tony: 780.484.6806

HELP SUPPORT THE YOUTH EMERGENCY
SHELTER SOCIETY-PROGRAMS FOR
YOUTH 780.468.7070; YESS.ORG

ARTIST TO ARTIST

FREE+FREE+FREE+FREE+FREE
FREE+FREE+FREE+FREE+FREE
ARTIST/NON PROFIT CLASSIFIEDS

Need a volunteer? Forming an acting troupe? Want someone to jam with? Place up to 20 words FREE, providing the ad is non-profit. Ads of more than 20 words subject to regular price or cruel editing. Free ads must be submitted in writing, in person or by fax. Free ads will run for four weeks, if you want to renew or cancel please phone Glenys at 780.426.1996/fax 780.426.2889/e-m office@vueweekly.com or drop it off at 10303-108 St. Deadline is noon the Tuesday before publication. Placement will depend upon available space

Profiles Gallery: call for submissions for 2011. Seeking proposals from artists working in all styles and mediums; Deadline: Sat, Feb 27, 2010, 5pm; More info: Janine Karasick-Acosta at 780.460.4310, 31 or janinek@artsheritage.ca

Submit exhibits for consideration in the following categories: Environmental Site Specific Installation; Curated Group Exhibit, Individual or Two Artist Exhibit, and Community Programs are invited to participate in 2010 at The Works Art Market and Food Street (deadline Feb. 15, 2010) and Street Stage (deadline Mar. 15, 2010). Application at theworks.ab.ca

Artist Volunteers needed at the Today Family Violence Centre to develop murals in their new facility that help in creating a positive environment for clients. Patrick Dillon at 780.455.6880

Call for artist donations for the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton: Any artist willing to donate a piece of art to the Christmas Bureau will get at least two mentions on local main stream radio. Supported by info about the Alberta Craft Council where the work will be presented for sale Info: Dianne Brown 780.414.7681; E: dianne.brown@christmasbureau.ca

Forever Growing, Forever Strong-2010 Alberta Literary Awards: Writers Guild of Alberta (WGA) invite writers from across Alberta to submit to this year's award categories. Deadline: Dec 31, 2009 Info: 780.422.8174; writersguild.ab.ca

Musical theatre company needs strong and (preferably older) tenor for production at the Arden in April. Paid position call 780.460.2937;

Rehearsals start December

Contact Rob at 780.952.4927

MUSICIANS

The Works Street Stage call to artists from experimental, rap, hip-hop, to folk, bluegrass, country, blues, jazz and rock-all genres. theworks.ab.ca/societyfolder/calls/calls.html; Contact Dawn Saunders Dahl dawn@theworks.ab.ca

Attention All Choirs: Any choirs interested in singing with other choirs in a 12th Night Celebration on Jan 3, 2010, please contact Vince at 780.436.8317

Professional metal band is seeking a dedicated guitar and bass player. Please, no cokeheads, etc.

International Songwriting Competition (ISC) deadline extended until Dec 2, 2009. Submit as many songs as desired, entries accepted online, by mail, email using a MySpace account. Info: songwritingcompetition.com, 615.251.4441, info@songwritingcompetition.com

WANTED: JAMMERS for open public monthly jam on the second Sunday of the month at 919-128A Ave. Rock, country & old time music. Ph. 780.973.5593, randyglen@jumpUpDj.com

Had Enough? Cocaine Anonymous
780.425.2715

Fun and Inspiring Employment

Public Outreach is offering great positions for anyone looking to gain valuable work experience in a fun and flexible environment.

As part of an Outreach Team, you will engage in meaningful dialogue in order to promote sustainable funding on behalf of our select group of non profits. Our Teams enjoy working outdoors in a dynamic and interactive atmosphere, on behalf of causes they feel passionately about. With flexible scheduling, excellent training, and scholarships this is an ideal employment opportunity!

\$12 / Hour
guaranteed wage

To apply, please send resume with cover letter to edmontonjobs@publicoutreach.ca
or call 780.436.9896
www.publicoutreach.ca

ORDER FORM CLASSIFIEDS FOUR LINES FOR \$20

EXTRAS
☐ Bolding \$4
☐ Caps \$4
☐ Extra Line \$4
☐ Box Word Ad \$4
☐ Symbols \$4

FORM OF PAYMENT
☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ Mastercard
Card# _____
Name _____
Address _____
Ph. _____ Postal Code _____

TOTAL
Lines _____
Extras _____
Subtotal _____
GST 5% _____
TOTAL _____

Phone 780.426.1996 from 9am to 5pm Mon-Fri • Email rob@vueweekly.com • Stop by 10303-108 St. Edmonton
Deadline Tues at Noon • Please print legibly on lines at right • Up to 45 characters per line • Every letter, space or mark counts as one character • Allow one space following punctuation

Print your ad here:

MILF debate continues

Dear Andrea:

I initially missed the hot-for-friend's-mother definition of MILF, and was introduced to the phrase, sweetly, by a former lover.

He wasn't trying to separate the fuckable mothers from the non-fuckable or fetishizing fecundity. Since we were both middle-aged, he wasn't designating me a MILF based on the understanding of it that you and the writer of "Still Hot" hold. He simply meant that my being a mother was one of the things he found attractive about me—he is a devoted father—and that he wanted to fuck me. When you are covered with spit-up or finger paint, when most of your social events involve the PTA, it's nice to know that you're still hot—maybe even hot because, rather than in spite of, your momitude.

His use of MILF made me feel attractive and desirable. It told me that I was still

sexy. In fact, it implied that part of my appeal was my maturity: not the maternal qualities in an icky, "I want to suckle your milk-filled breasts," way, but that he preferred me to young 'uns and the big-boobed brainless bimbos. "I think Stacy's mom is way hotter than her teenage daughter; I'd rather F her, because, while society says I should de facto be more attracted to the young girl, I'm more into the woman my own age." I doubt very much that I'm hot to a 14-year-old. But I might want to be to his dad.

So although I understand your discomfort with the acronym and the letter writer's outrage, I have a fondness for the term.

When you are a mother, you are different from when you were a non-mother, not better or worse, but changed. If someone wants to F you, for whatever reason, you are by definition, a M he or she would L to F.

Finally, I don't dismiss the power of words or names. I instruct young people not to use terms like "wife-beater." I find it incredibly offensive to equate a still-libidinous woman over 40 with a predator, especially since she is simultaneously the object of contempt and ridicule. I get how insulting it is to be objectified and often demeaned through language. And I am aware of the implicit sexism and cultural disregard for—if not downright fear of—women's sexuality. But does everything have to be so complicated? Can we stop looking for reasons to be outraged?

Love, Glad 28

Dear B:

Certainly! But I don't think "Still Hot" was outraged as much as she was puzzled and maybe made a little irritable by trying to figure out if she still rated as an attractive woman or only, now that she had a kid, as one of the scarce-enough-to-be-worth-a-

special-coinage exceptions to a perceived rule (moms are not sexy). For myself, I at least hope I don't go around wasting my outrage on silly examples of what I'm going to term "folk demographics," terms spawned by popular culture to describe human phenomena of current cultural interest. Children dying for lack of healthcare? Outrage. New(ish) and offensive ways to categorize women by perceived attractiveness, not too different from the old ways? Annoyance. And by the way, I pretty much ceded you the column this week and think highly of you but I was reading along, nodding happily, when I stumbled over "big-boobed brainless bimbo" and landed—thud—wondering how "B-B B B" is any less misogynistic than "cougar." It isn't, of course. That sort of casual disparagement of other women is so pervasive it's invisible, and so unquestioned we (all) do it ourselves without even noticing. But we could put "quit that" on our New Year's resolution lists.

This whole subject reminds me of the time the first friend of ours to get pregnant (we are late bloomers) found herself wailing, hormonally, something like "I don't want

to be attractive just to the sort of people who would want you to know that they find pregnant women attractive!" Likewise, many an older woman could find herself lamenting being attractive only to the sort of men who would want you to know that they find older women attractive. One wants to be found attractive. One does not wish to be exoticized or, God forbid, humored.

I appreciate your spin on the phrase, and am glad you had the enviable experience of being found sexy for being exactly who you are. I don't think MILF can be re-deemed, though.

I recently read on one of the feminist blogs a post attempting to reframe the misogynist use of "douche" as invective ("Aw! It's for vaginas!"). "Douches are bad for your ladybits," reasoned the writer (more or less), "so it's not anti-woman to call a smarmy, self-satisfied jerk a 'douche.' It's pro-woman! Because douches are bad!"

Nice try, I thought. But calling a dude a douche is still pretty sexist. As for the fact that I also think it's hilarious, well, please don't be outraged!

Love, Andrea

VOLUNTEER

Meals on Wheels—Volunteers needed • To deliver nutritious meals (vehicle required) Weekdays 10:45am-1pm • To assist in the kitchen Weekdays 6am and 2pm; shift times are flexible • 780.429.2020

Volunteer website for youth 14-24 years old. youthvolunteer.ca

Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta, NWT & Nunavut: Take a few hours this February and join our team of Heart Month volunteers. Visit heartandstroke.ca/help; 1.888.HSF.INFO

Meals on Wheels is accepting unwrapped, new gifts suitable for seniors to be distributed during the holiday season. Drop off gifts at Meals on Wheels, 1111-103 Ave • Dec 1-11, Mon-Fri 8am-3pm • Dec 1-2, 8am-8pm • Sat, Dec 5, 10am-2pm • Gift Wrapping Open House: Dec 9, 1-3pm

Canadian Mental Health Association / Board Recruiting 2009 Learn about our community work: www.cmha-edmonton.ab.ca

Volunteer with the Aboriginal Health Group. Plan events (like Aboriginal Health Week, Speaker Series). Promote healthy habits to high school students. Set up events. E: abhealthgroup@gmail.com; aboriginalhealthgroup.org

Deep Freeze, Jan 9-10, winter festival, need volunteers; contact Judy 780.496.1913; artsontheave.org

CNIB's Friendly Visitor Program needs volunteers to Help and be a sighted guide with a friendly voice. If you can help someone with vision loss visit cnib.ca or call 780.453.8304

Bicycle Mechanic Volunteers for Bissell Centre community homeless or near homelessness members on Mon, Wed, Fri, 9am-12pm. Contact Linda 780.423.2285 ext 134

The Learning Centre Literacy Association: seeking an artist or arts & crafts person that would be willing to commit 2 hrs weekly to the instruction of their passion to adult literacy learners in the inner city. Denis Lapierre 780.429.0675, dllearningcentre@shaw.ca

Dr.'s Appointment Buddy—Accompany new refugee immigrants to their medical appointments to give support and assist with paperwork. Thu, 10:30am-2:30pm. Transportation not required. Leslie 780.432.1137, ext 357

P.A.L.S. Project Adult Literacy Society needs volunteers to work with adult students in the ESL English as a Second Language Program. Call 780.424.5514; training and materials are provided

S.C.A.R.S.: Second Chance Animal Rescue Society. Our dogs are TV stars! Watch Global TV every Sat at 9:45 AM where new, wonderful dogs will be profiled. scarsare.org

BISSELL CENTRE Community in need of basic daily items, please bring: coffee, sugar, powdered creamer, diapers, baby formula to Bissell Centre East, 10527-96 St, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4:30pm

People between 18-55, suffering from depression or who have never suffered from depression are needed as research volunteers, should not be taking medication, smoking, or undergoing psychotherapy and not have a history of cardiovascular disease. Monetary compensation provided for participation. 780.407.3906

Do you remember someone who believed in you when you were a child? Be that person in a child's life today. All it takes is one hour a week, which may not be much to you but will make all the difference in the life of a child. Be a Big Brother or Big Sister! Be a Mentor! Call Big Brother Big Sister today, 780.424.8181

HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS required for studies at UofA. Call 780.407.3906; E: UofADep@gmail.com

Reimbursement provided

U of A is seeking major depression sufferers interested in participating in a research study. Call 780.407.3906; E: UofADep@gmail.com

The Support Network: Volunteer today to be a Distress Line Listener. Apply on line thesupportnetwork.com or call 780.732.6648

Volunteer with Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, help immigrant Children and youth of all ages—volunteer in a homework club. Contact Phillip Deng at 780.423.956 or pdeng@emcn.ab.ca

Volunteer drivers and kitchen help urgently needed. If you're available weekdays, 10am-1pm call Meals on Wheels, 780.429.2020

CANADIAN LIVER FOUNDATION is looking for enthusiastic volunteers for presentations and special events. Call Carmen at 780.444.1547

Volunteer with your Pet, The Chimo Animal Assisted Therapy Project uses animals in therapy sessions with trained therapists to help the clients achieve specific goals. Info: chimoproject.ca. E: volunteer@chimoproject.ca or T: 780.452.2452

The Support Network: Volunteer today to be a Distress Line Listener. Apply at thesupportnetwork.com T: 780.732.6648

Guerrilla Gardening need volunteers. E: theurbangreening@gmail.com, T: 780.432.6181 for info. Facebook: http://edmontongg.blogspot.com

Edmonton Bicycle Commuters (EBC) is looking for people to help at the shop or with other tasks. Contact: info@edmontonbikes.ca

SERVICES

SACRED Edmonton Society; sacredeatingdisorders.com; An Eating Disorder Intensive Recovery Program for those with anorexia or with bulimia. E: sacred6@telus.net; T: 780.429.3380

Have you been affected by another person's sexual behaviour? S-Anon is a 12-Step fellowship for the family members and friends of sex addicts. Call 780.988.4411 for Edmonton area meeting locations and information, sanon.org

SACE—Public Education Program: Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (sace.ab.ca) provides crisis intervention, info, counseling, public education. T: 780.423.4103/F: 780.421.8734/E: info@sace.ab.ca; sake.ab.ca/24 Hour Crisis Line: 780.423.4121

Are you an International Medical Graduate seeking licensure? The Alberta International Medical Graduates Association is here to help. Support, study groups, volunteer opportunities—all while creating change for tomorrow. aimga.ca

Canadian Mental Health Association, cmha-edmonton.ab.ca Education Program offer workshops to give skills to intervene with people who may be at risk for suicide. Follow the links to ASIST or call 780.414.6300

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FOOD BANK

ADULT

ALL HOT SEXY BABES
Try it FREE! 18+
780.665.0808
403.313.3330

100S OF HOT LOCAL SINGLES
It's FREE to try! 18+
780.669.2323
403.770.0990

STEAMWORKS GAY & BI MENS BATHHOUSE
24/7
11745 JASPER AVE. 780.451.5554
WWW.STEAMWORKSEDMONTON.COM

#1 SEXIEST CHAT!
Call now! FREE to try! 18+
780.665.6565
403.313.3311

VUEWEEKLY

CONTEST RULES:

Unless otherwise specified, the following will apply:

- the winner must be 18 or older.
- prize must be accepted as awarded.
- no one may enter any contest more than once.
- you may only win once every 60 days.
- Vue Weekly reserves the right to exclude anyone from our contests.
- no staff, sponsors or members of their immediate families may enter.
- the personal information of those who enter will not be sold but may be provided to contest sponsors.
- the chances of winning depend on the number of entries received.
- by entering, entrants consent to the use of their names by Vue Weekly for publicity.
- Vue Weekly is not responsible for prizes unclaimed after 15 days.
- by entering with an email address one authorizes oneself to be added to FIRSTREAD!

Chat with 100's of HOT naughty girls!

FREE 2 try

NightLine PERSONALITY

Calgary 403-313-3311
Other Cities 1-877-834-4044

Edmonton
780-665-6565

1-900-561-5555 125¢/min Mobile pay, text SCORE to 96669 \$3.10/min

HOT BABES TALK SEXY

Try it **FREE**

Calgary 403-313-3330
1-900-451-3333 \$25/30min

Edmonton
780-665-0808

1hr, No nudity Restrictions apply

Your best pickup line.

LOCAL CHAT. CALL FREE: code 2315

780.413.7122

CruiseLine

1.900.451.2853 (75 min/\$24⁹⁵)

Try CruiseLine Text for free. Text "xtra" to FREE • www.cruiseline.ca

Capture life as it happens with the Nokia N86 8MP.

Life is an exciting journey, especially with the Nokia N86 8MP. With Nokia's exclusive Ovi Maps and GPS, you can plan virtually every twist and turn in the road. And you can hang on to every moment with its award winning 8 megapixel camera. You can even share updates on Facebook along the way. From cool apps to 3D maps, the Nokia N86 8MP is full of life.

Publications Mail Agreement #40022989

University of Alberta Libraray
PO Box 41021
5th Floor Cameron
Edmonton, AB
T6G 2J8

8



NOKIA
Connecting People

Now available at
ROGERS

Go to **ovi.com** to discover new apps,
maps, and more for your Nokia phone.

NOKIA
ovi

© 2009 Nokia. All rights reserved. Nokia, N-Series, N86, Nokia Connecting People and Ovi are trademarks or registered trademarks of Nokia Corporation.

*Rogers & Mobliis design are trademarks of Rogers Communications Inc.

Downloading of applications, maps, games, music, and videos and uploading of images and videos involves transferring large amounts of data. Your service provider may charge for the data transmission. Contact your service provider for information about data transmission charges. The availability and accuracy of GPS location services are dependent on wireless networks, satellite systems, and the agency receiving the information. It may not function in all areas or at all times. You should never rely solely on GPS products for essential communications like emergencies. Wireless service is required to use many features. Some networks have limitations that affect how you can use this device. Contact your service provider about feature support and availability.